

Linear Programming

Graphical and Computer Methods

Linear Programming (LP)

- **Managers continually plan and make decisions related to resource allocation**
 - **Resources typically include labor, raw materials, money, time, warehouse space, machinery, etc.**
 - **Management's goal: use available resources (all of which cost money) as efficiently as possible**
- **Linear programming is a widely used mathematical technique designed to help management with resource allocation decisions**
 - **Microsoft Excel Solver**

Linear Programming

- **A mathematical method for determining the best way to accomplish an objective**
 - **Minimize cost, maximize profit, etc.**
 - » **Maximum profit production plans**
 - » **Minimum cost blends of chemicals/petroleum/foods**
 - » **Minimum cost transportation of goods/materials**
 - » **Minimum cost personnel scheduling**
 - » **Maximum profit cash flow allocation**
- **All LP problems have four common properties, three major components, and five basic assumptions**

Four Common Properties

- All problems seek to maximize or minimize some quantity
 - Objective function usually maximizes profit or minimizes cost
- Restrictions or constraints are present which limit the degree to which an objective can be achieved
- Alternative courses of action are available to choose from
- Objectives and constraints are expressed in terms of linear equations or inequalities

Three Major Components

- **Decision Variables**
- **Objective Function**
- **Resource Constraints**

Decision Variables

What Can I Adjust?

- **Mathematical symbols that represent levels of activity by a firm**
 - **How much of a product should be produced, how much money should be invested, etc.**
- **“Adjustable Cells”**

Objective Function

What Do I Mean by Best?

- A linear mathematical relationship that describes the relationship in terms of the decision variables
 - Maximize profit, kills/sortie
 - Minimize cost, attrition

$$Z = aX_1 + bX_2$$

$$Z = aX_1^2 + b$$

Resource Constraints

What Constraints Must I Obey?

- **Linear relationships of the decision variables that represent limits placed on a firm**
 - Equalities or inequalities
- **Consist of decision variables and parameters**
 - Numerical values in the objective function and constraints

$$3X_1 + 2X_2 \leq 75$$

$$2X_1 + 5X_2 \geq 110$$

LP Assumptions

- **Parameter Availability**
- **Proportionality**
- **Additivity**
- **Divisibility**
- **Nonnegativity**

Parameter Availability

- **Model parameters must be known or reliably estimated**
- **Model parameters do not change during the period being studied**
 - **Objective function coefficients**
 - **Limits on resource availability**
 - **Constraint coefficients**

Proportionality

- **Contributions to value of objective function and the amount of resources used are proportional to the value of each decision variable**
 - **Doubling the amount of labor used doubles labors contribution to profit**
 - **Constant slope**
 - » **no fixed costs, economies of scale, startup costs**

“If producing one unit of a product requires 3 hours of labor, producing ten units requires 30 hours of labor”

Additivity

- **Total value of the objective function = sum of contributions of each decision variable**
- **Total resources used = sum of resources used for each activity**

“The sum of all activities equals the sum of the individual activities”

Divisibility

- **Solutions are not restricted to whole numbers**
 - **Continuous and may take any fractional value**
- **If a fractional result can not be produced, an integer programming problem exists**

Nonnegativity

- **Assume that all answers and variables are nonnegative**
 - **Negative values of physical quantities are impossible**

Model Formulation: A Product Mix Problem

The Flair Furniture Company

- **Produces inexpensive tables and chairs**
 - **Two primary resources required during production:**
 - » **labor hours for carpentry**
 - » **labor hours for painting and varnishing**
- **How many tables and chairs should be produced each week in order to maximize profit?**
 - **Resource requirements, limitations, and profit per item produced:**

Department	Hours Required Per Unit		Weekly Hours Available
	Tables	Chairs	
Carpentry	4	3	240
Painting/ Varnishing	2	1	100
Profit per Unit	\$7	\$5	

Decision Variables

What does management control?

Decision Variables

X_1 = # of tables to produce each week

X_2 = # of chairs to produce each week

Objective Function

What is meant by best?

Objective Function

- **Maximize Profit**
 - Profit per table= \$7, Profit per chair = \$5
 - # of tables to produce = X_1 , # of chairs to produce = X_2

- **Profit Function:**

$$Z = \$7X_1 + \$5X_2$$

- **Objective Function:**

$$\underline{\text{Maximize}} \quad Z = \$7X_1 + \$5X_2$$

Resource Constraints

What constraints must be obeyed?

What resources are limited?

Resource Constraints

Labor for Carpentry

- **Available: 240 hours per week**
- **Required: 4 hours per table produced, 3 hours per chair produced**
- **Labor constraint: $4X_1 + 3X_2 \leq 240$**

Resource Constraints

Labor for Painting and Varnishing

- **Available: 100 hours per week**
- **Required: 2 hours per table produced, 1 hour per chair produced**
- **Labor constraint: $2X_1 + 1X_2 \leq 100$**

Resource Constraints

Non-negativity

- No negative quantities can be produced

$$X_1, X_2 \geq 0$$

Model Summary *

X_1 = # of tables to produce each week

X_2 = # of chairs to produce each week

$$\text{Maximize } Z = \$7X_1 + \$5X_2$$

subject to

$$4X_1 + 3X_2 \leq 240$$

$$2X_1 + 1X_2 \leq 100$$

$$X_1, X_2 \geq 0$$

Graphical Solution

- **Practically limited to problems of two variables**
 - **Provides insight into the solution process for more complex problems**
- **Five-step procedure:**
- **(1) Graph feasible solutions for each constraint**
- **(2) Determine the feasible solution area**
- **(3) Draw an objective function line (*isoprofit line*)**
- **(4) Move parallel isoprofit lines toward better objective function values**
- **(5) Solve for optimum values of X_1 and X_2**

Determining Feasible Solutions

- Plot each of the problem's constraints on a graph

$$4X_1 + 3X_2 \leq 240$$

$$2X_1 + 1X_2 \leq 100$$

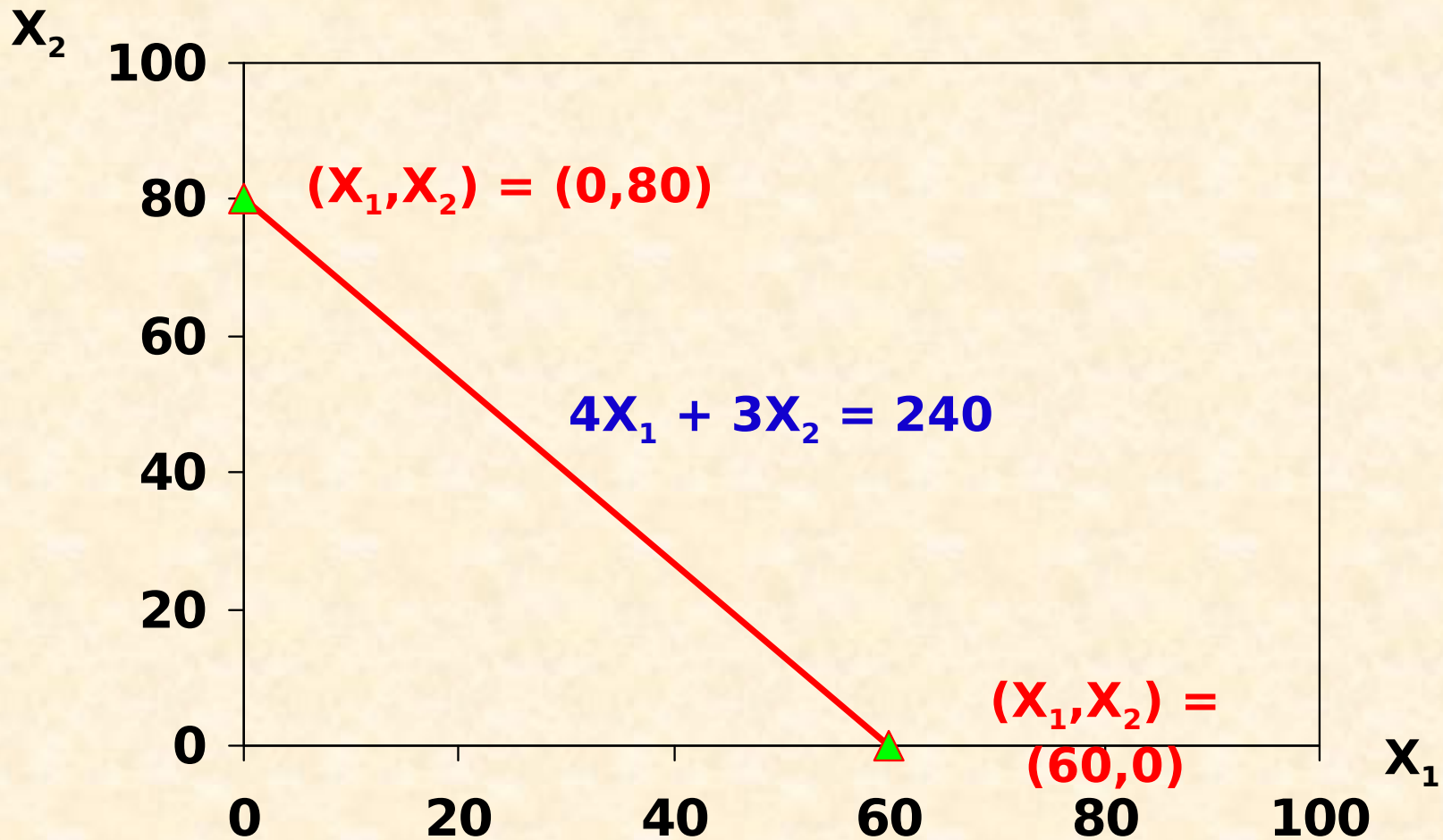
$$X_1, X_2 \geq 0$$

Determining Feasible Solutions

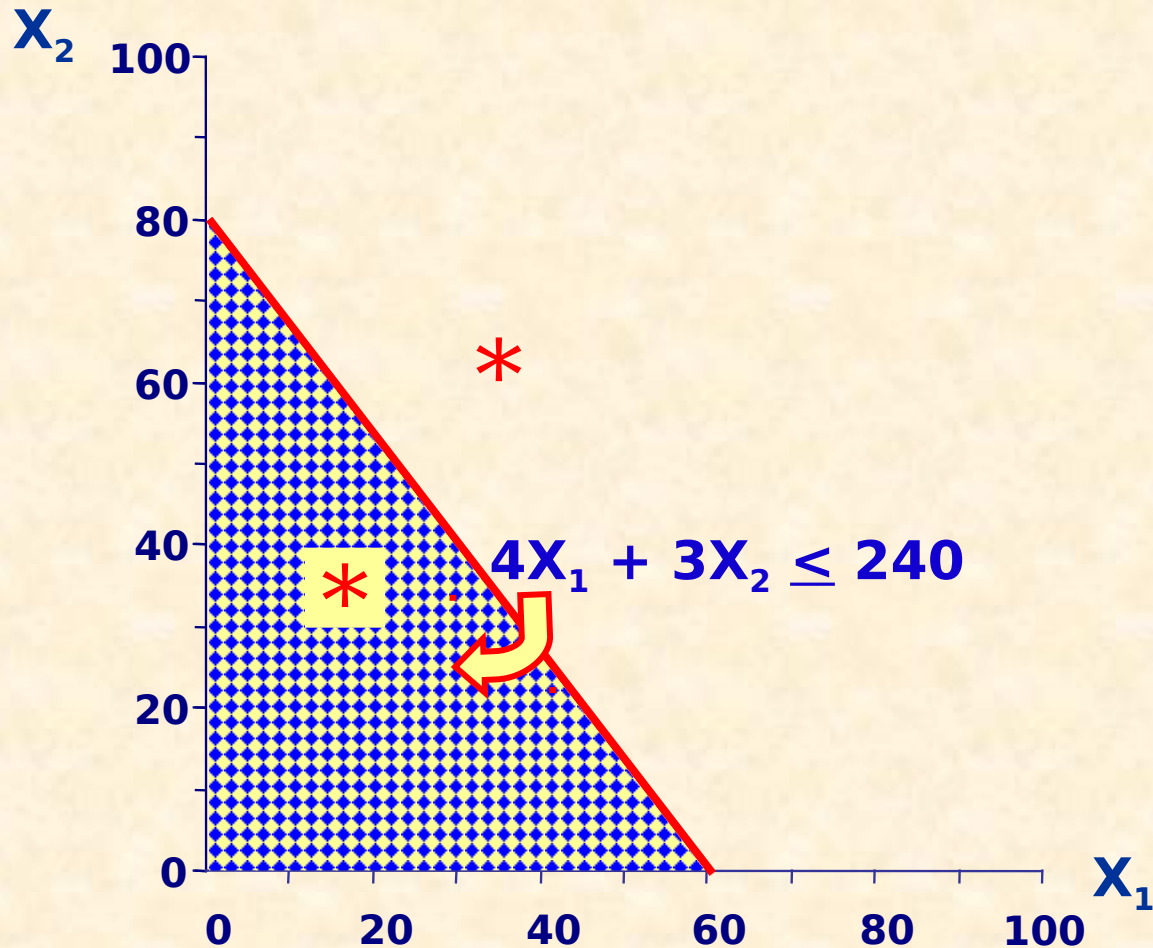
$$4X_1 + 3X_2 \leq 240$$

- To represent graphically, convert to an equality:
$$4X_1 + 3X_2 = 240$$
- Plot a straight line representing any two points that satisfy the equation
 - Determine one end point of the line by setting one of the two variables equal to zero and solving the resulting equation
 - » set $X_1 = 0$: $4(0) + 3X_2 = 240 \rightarrow 3X_2 = 240 \rightarrow X_2 = 80$
 - Repeat for the second variable
 - » set $X_2 = 0$: $4X_1 + 3(0) = 240 \rightarrow 4X_1 = 240 \rightarrow X_1 = 60$

Determining Feasible Solutions



Determining Feasible Solutions



Determining Feasible Solutions

Repeat for other constraints

$$4X_1 + 3X_2 \leq 240$$

$$2X_1 + 1X_2 \leq 100$$

$$X_1, X_2 \geq 0$$

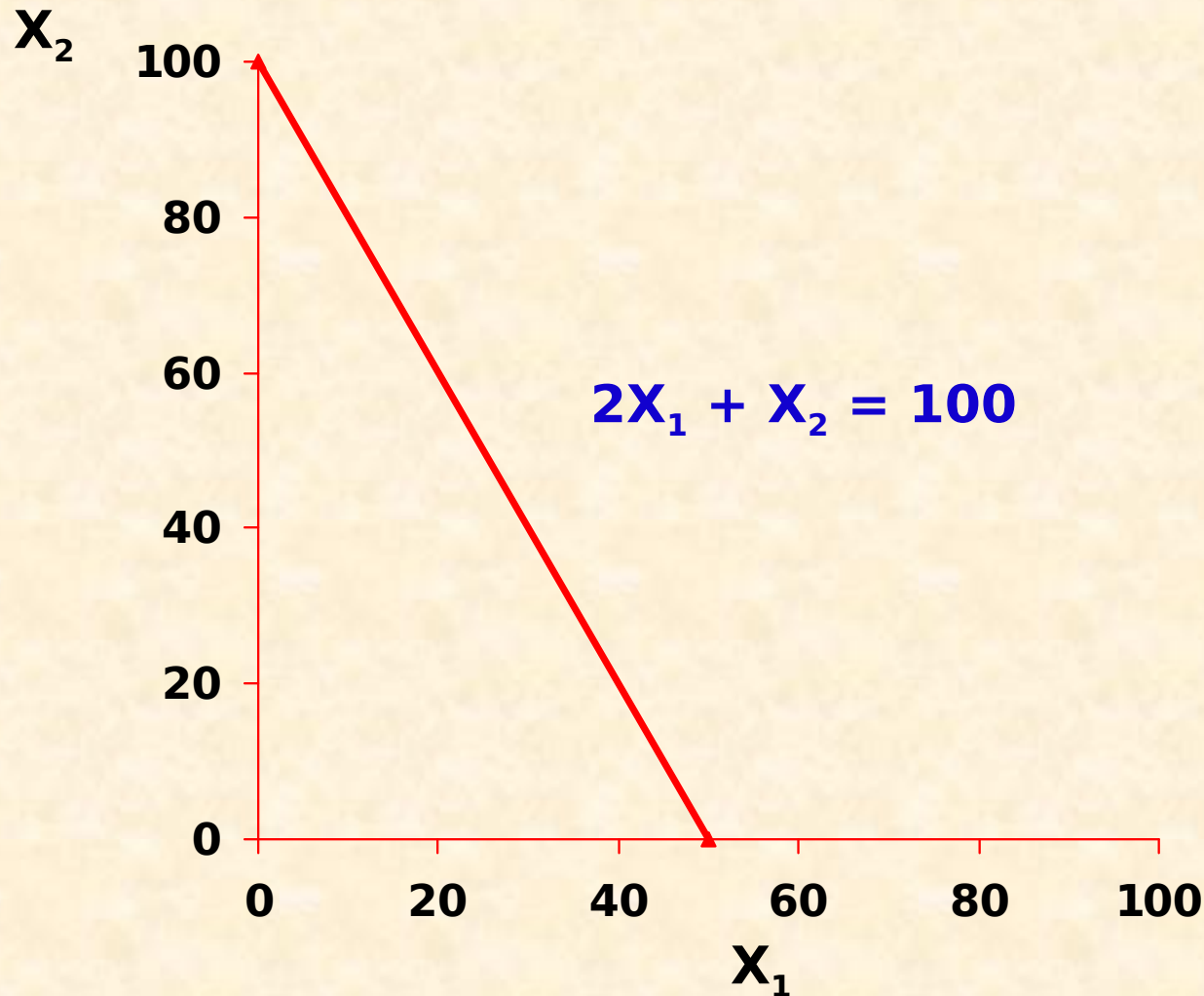
$$2(0) + 1X_2 = 100$$

$$X_2 = 100$$

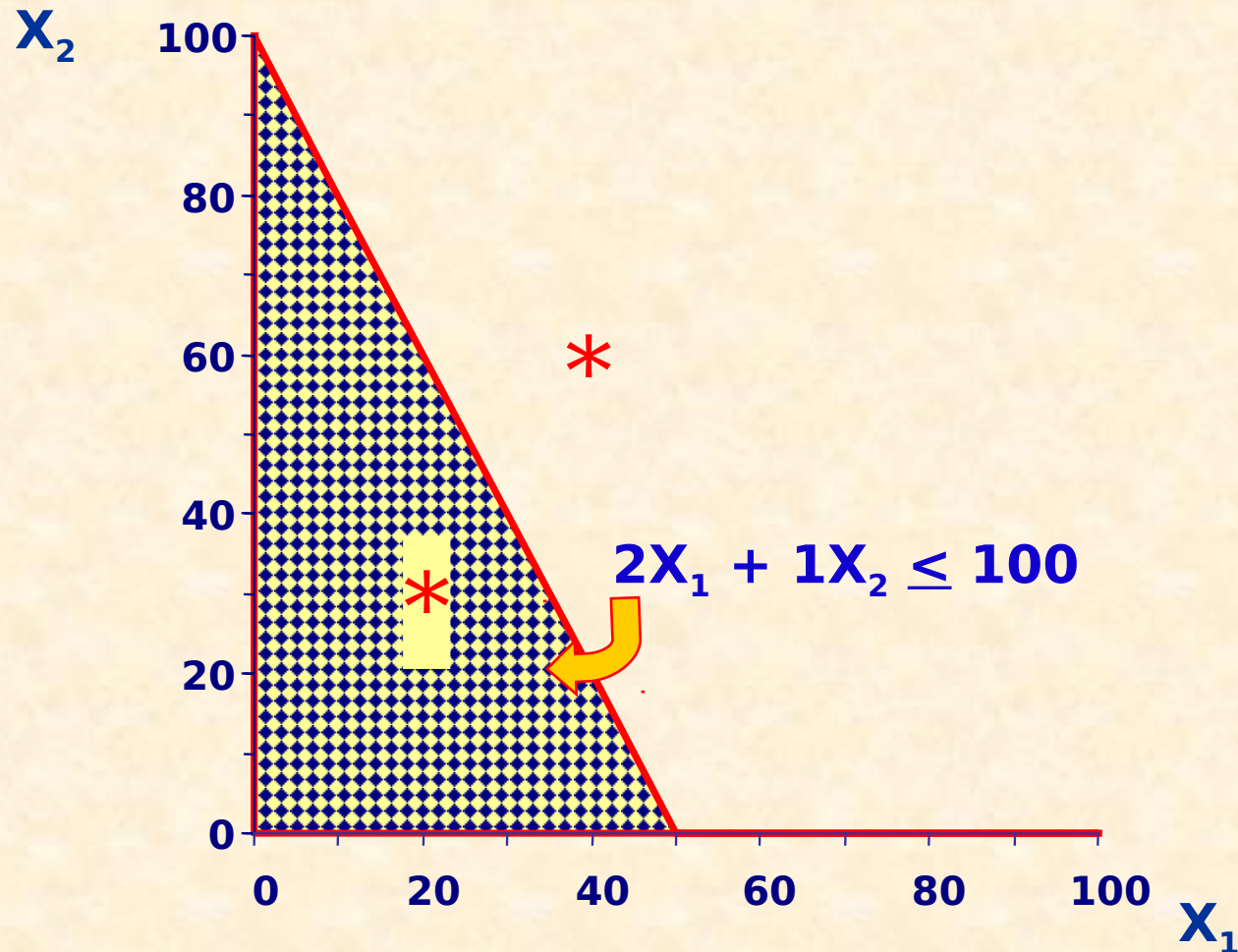
$$2X_1 + 1(0) = 100$$

$$X_1 = 50$$

Determining Feasible Solutions



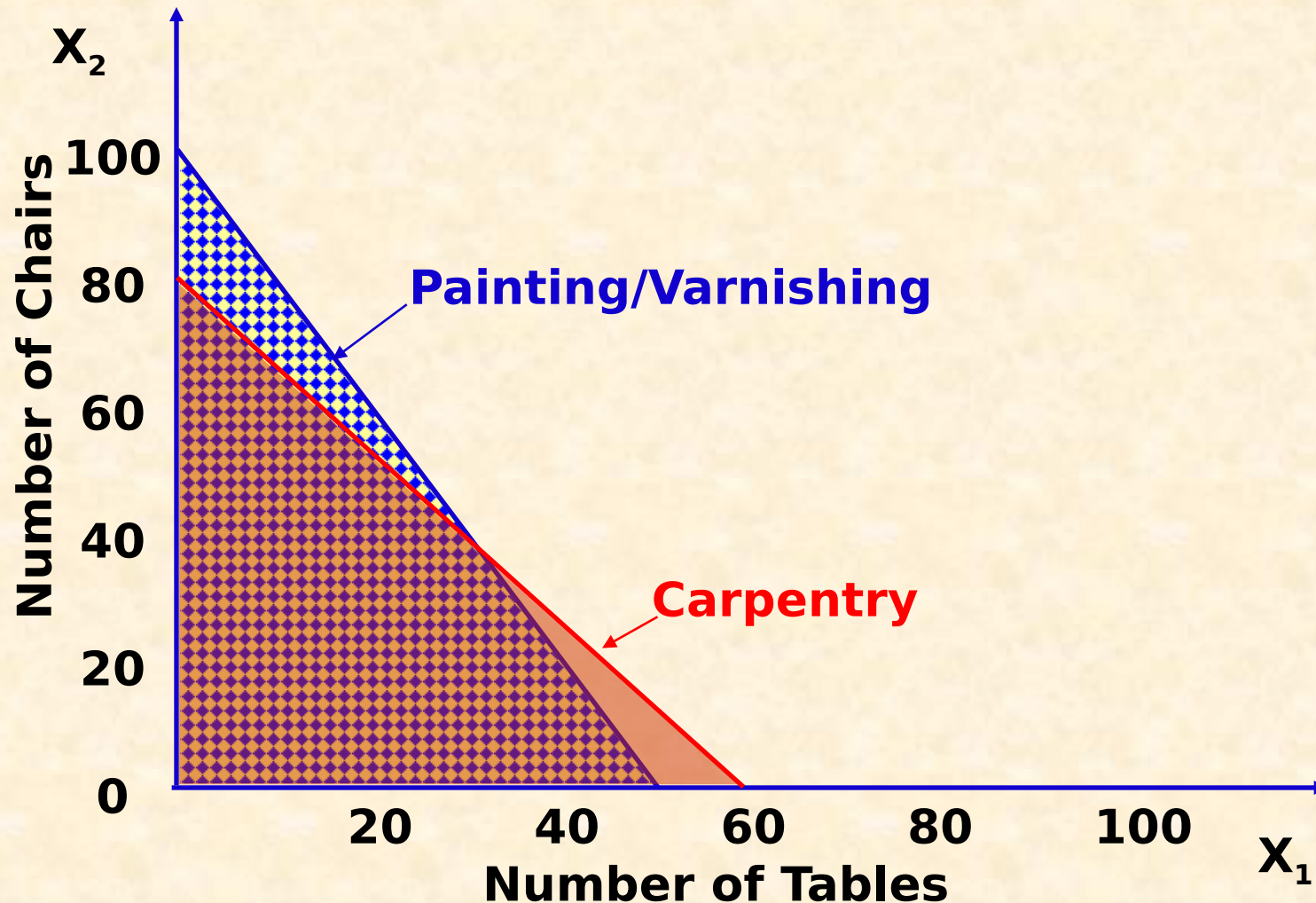
Determining Feasible Solutions



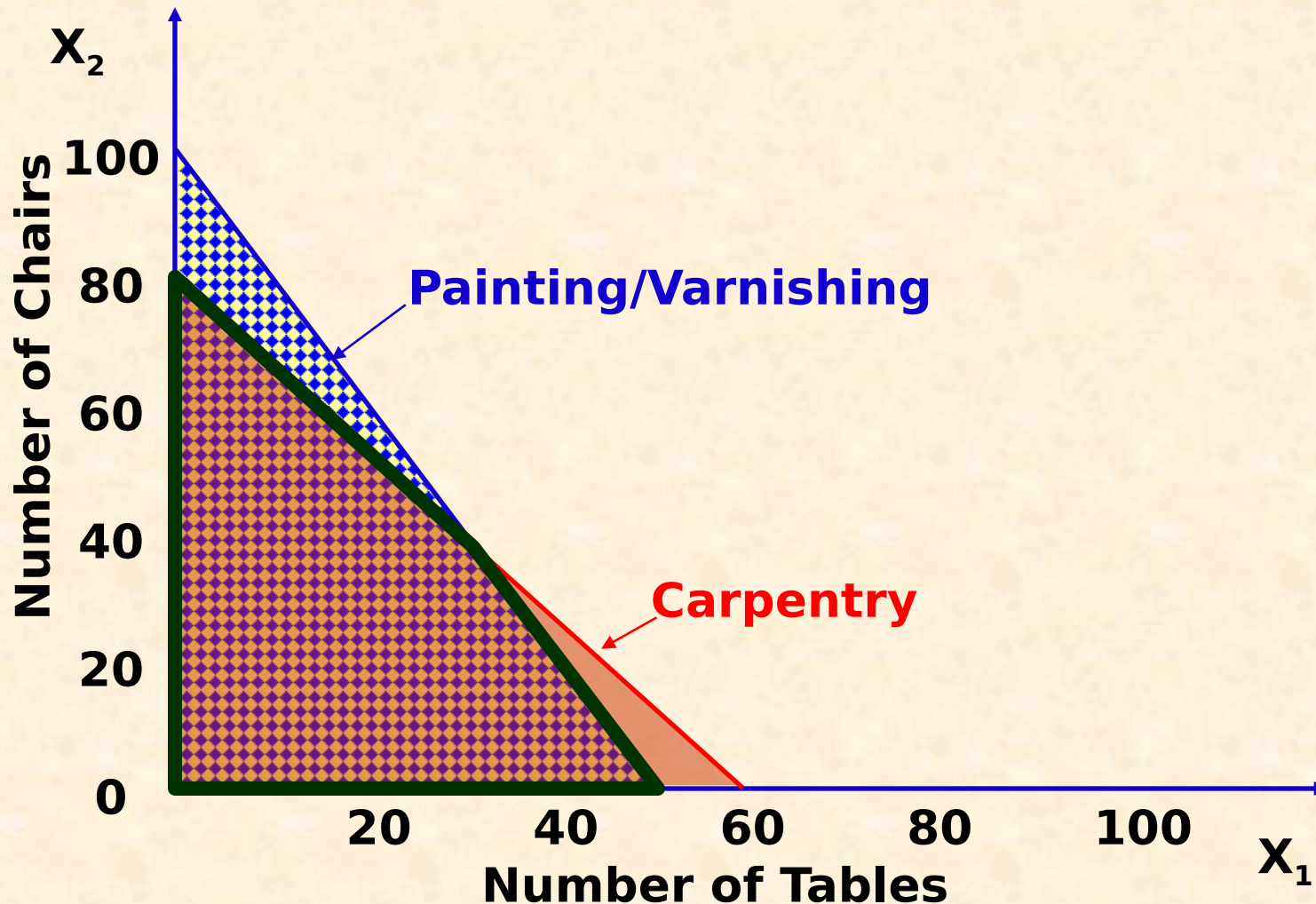
Determine the Feasible Region

- Find the set of solution points that satisfies all constraints simultaneously

Determining the Feasible Region



Determining the Feasible Region



Draw an Objective Function Line

The Isoprofit Line Method

- **Optimal solution:** the point lying in the feasible region that produces the highest profit

Finding the optimal solution point

- **Select an arbitrary profit amount**
 - Profit determined by objective function
 - Select a small level of profit (Z) that is a multiple of the product of the objective function coefficients
 - » Set $X_1 = 0$, solve for X_2
 - » Set $X_2 = 0$, solve for X_1

$$Z = 7X_1 + 5X_2$$

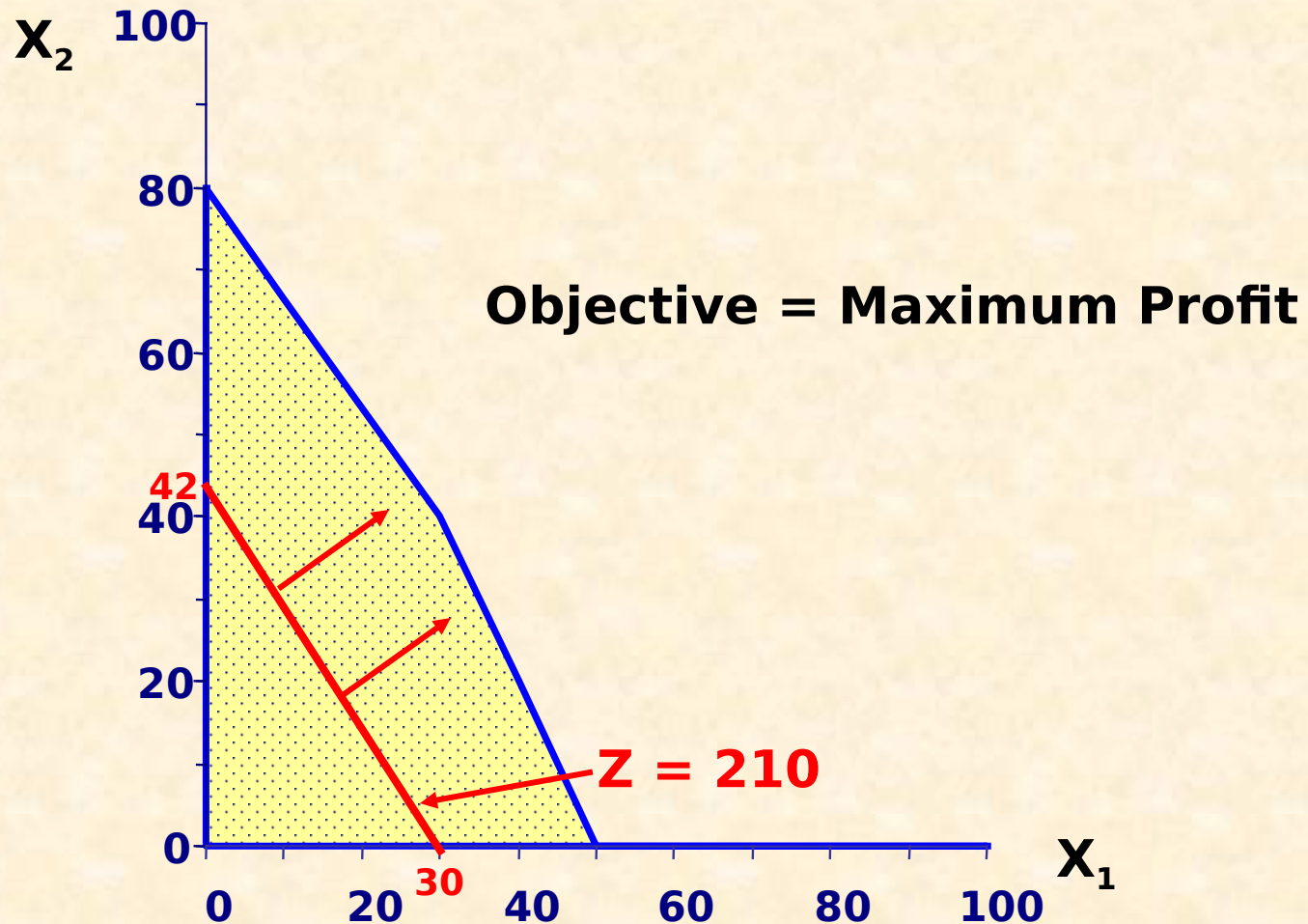
$(7)(5) = 35$; pick a multiple of 35

$$\text{Set } Z = (6)(35) = 210$$

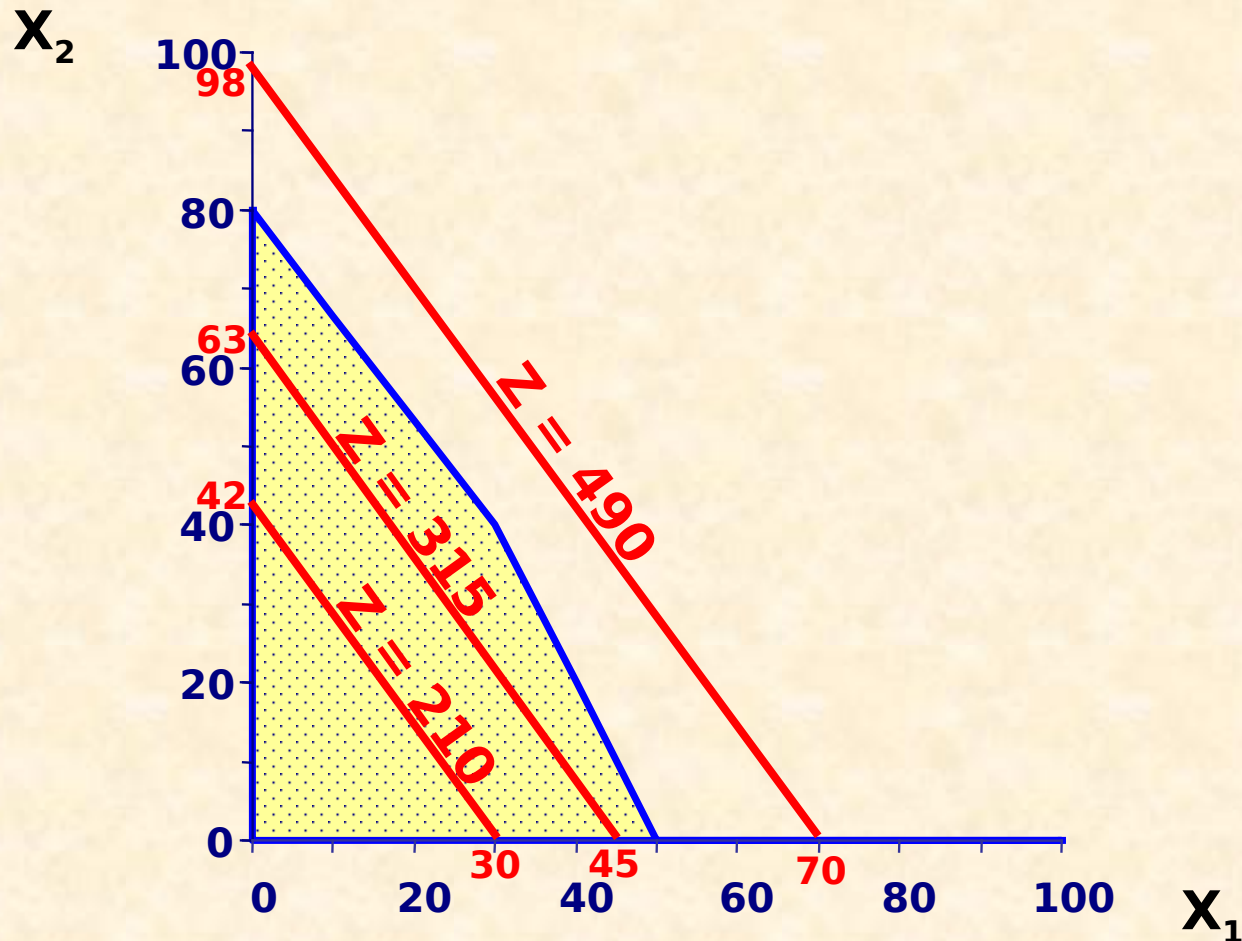
$$\text{If } X_1 = 0, X_2 = 42$$

$$\text{If } X_2 = 0, X_1 = 30$$

Move Isoprofit Lines Toward Better Objective Function Values

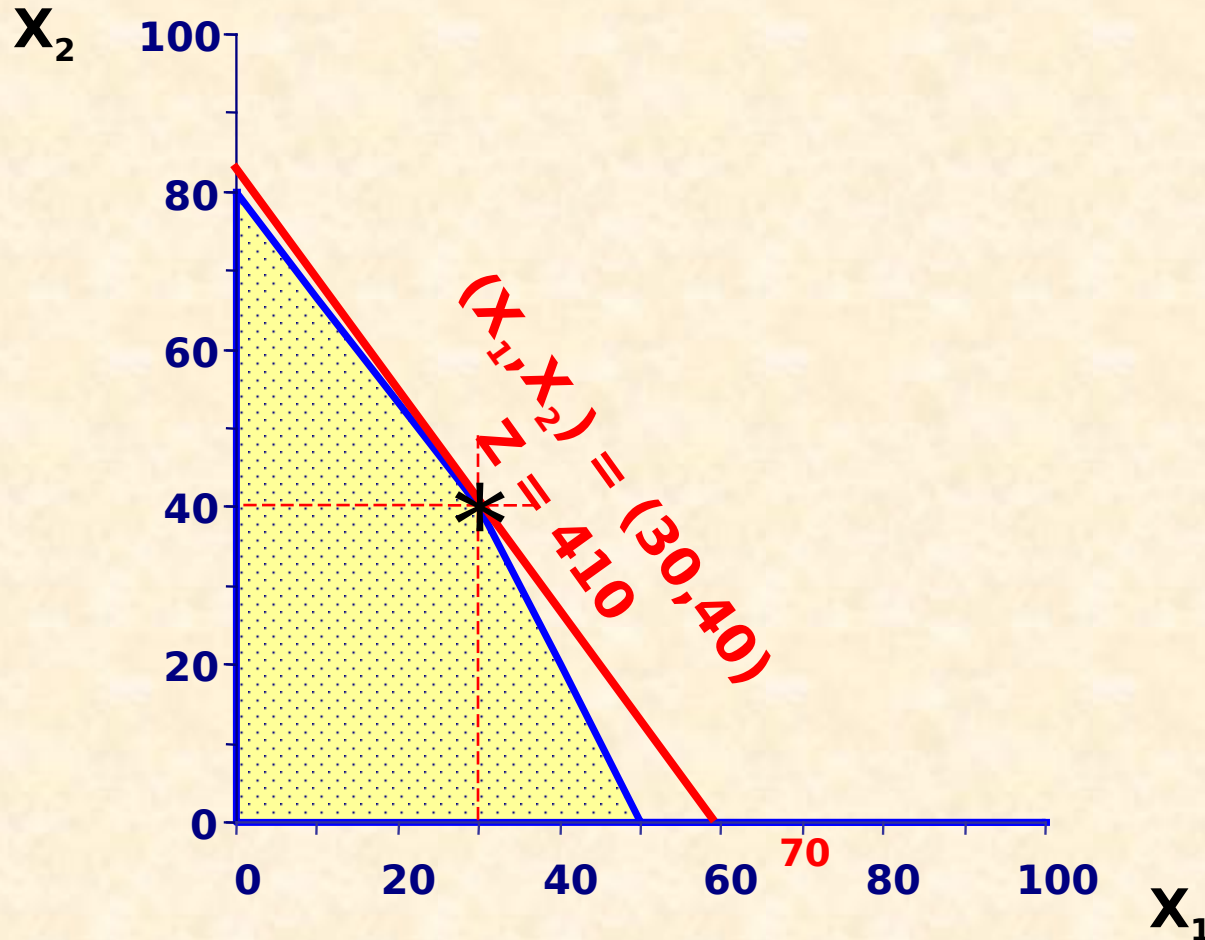


Isoprofit Lines



The highest profit line that still touches a point in the feasible region is the optimal solution

Solve for X_1 , X_2

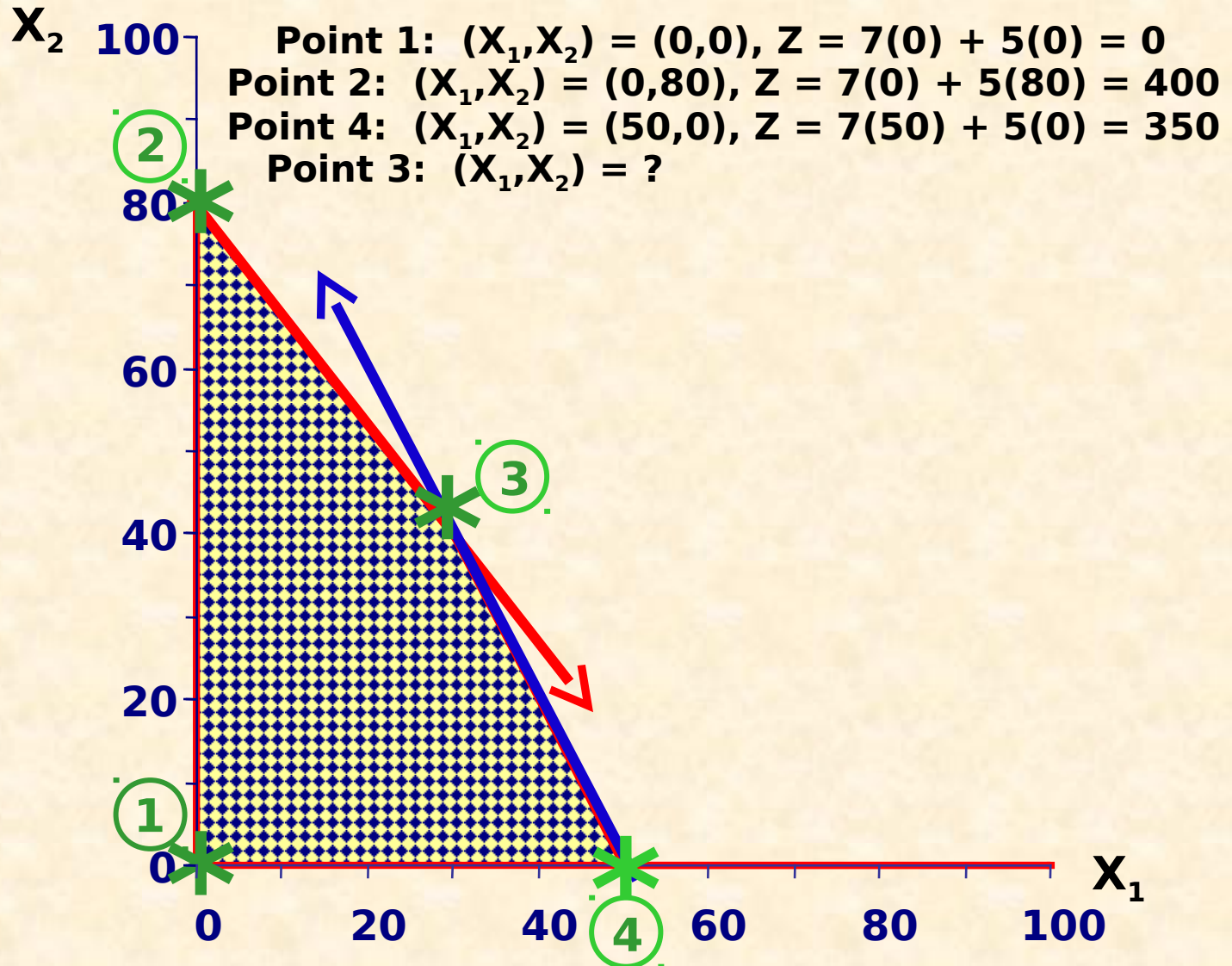


The highest profit line touches the tip of the feasible region at $(X_1, X_2) = (30, 40)$. Optimal (maximum) profit is \$410.

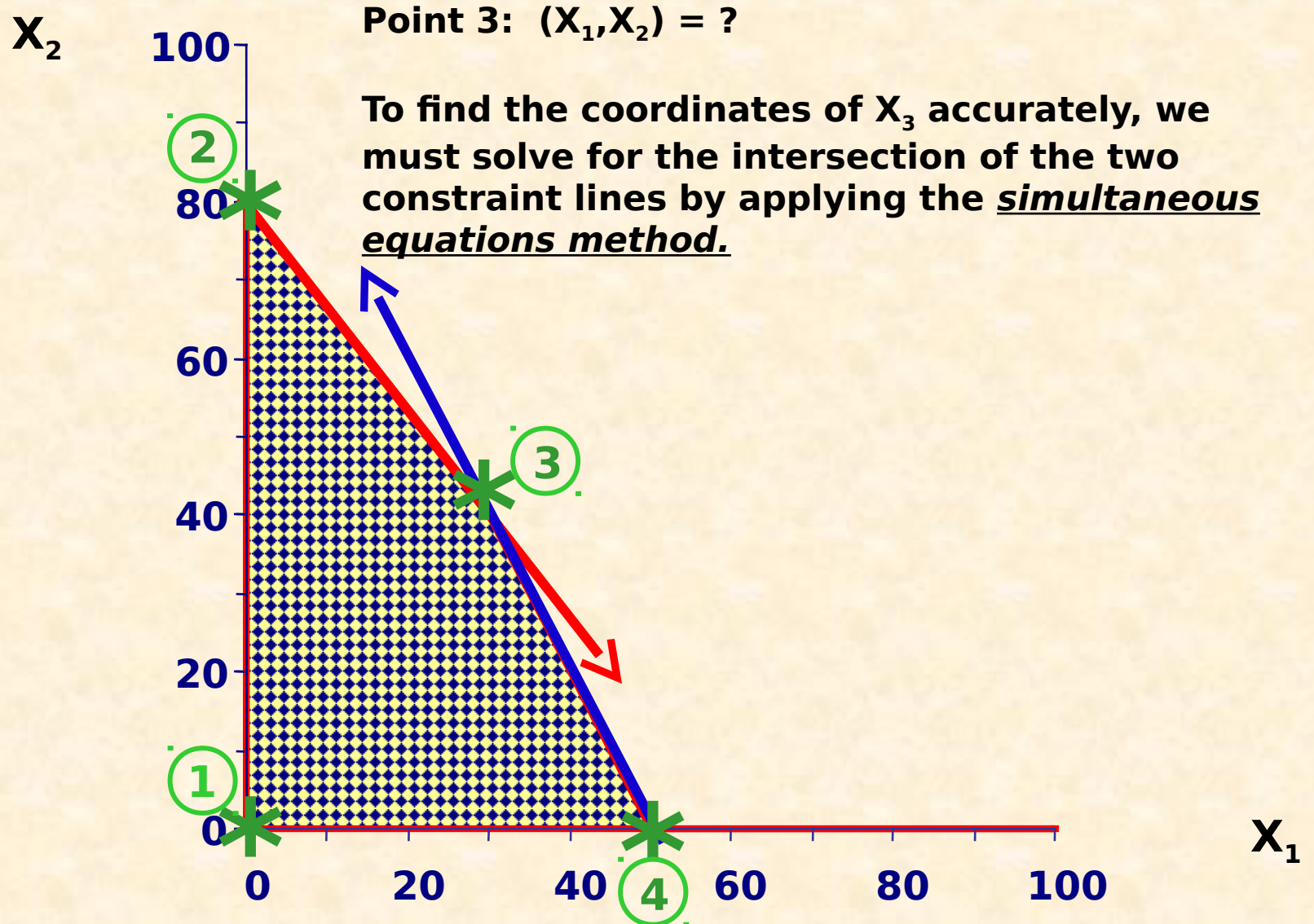
Finding X_1 , X_2 Using the Corner Point Solution Method

- Based on the mathematical theory that is the foundation of linear programming
 - “The optimum solution must lie on the border of the feasible region at one of the corner points”
 - » involves looking at the profit at every corner point (extreme point) of the feasible region
- The feasible region of the Flair Furniture Company example is a four-sided polygon
 - Four sides = four corner points to be evaluated

Corner Points



Corner Points



Solving Simultaneous Equations

- First determine which constraint lines intersect at the solution point

$$X_1 = 0 \quad X_2 = 0$$

$$4X_1 + 3X_2 = 240$$

$$2X_1 + 1X_2 =$$

100

at the point of intersection, the constraint lines are equal

- Solve both equations for X_1 or $X_2 = 100$

$$4X_1 = 240 - 3X_2$$

$$2X_1 = 100 - X_2$$

$$X_1 = 60 - \frac{3}{4}X_2$$

$$X_1 = 50 - \frac{1}{2}X_2$$

- Set resulting equations equal and solve for X_2

$$60 - 50 = \frac{3}{4}X_2 - \frac{1}{2}X_2$$

$$10 = \frac{1}{4}X_2$$

$$X_2 = 40$$

Solving Simultaneous Equations

- **Substitute optimal value of X_2 into either of the two intersecting resource constraints and solve for X_1**

$$4X_1 + 3X_2 = 240$$

$$\text{if } X_2 = 40,$$

$$4X_1 + 3(40) = 240$$

$$4X_1 = 120$$

$$X_1 = 30$$

- **Substitute values of X_1 , X_2 into objective function to determine optimum (maximum) profit**

$$Z = 7X_1 + 5X_2$$

$$= 7(30) + 5(40) = \$410$$

Another Example:

The Beaver Creek Pottery Company

- **A Native American small craft operation**
 - produce clay bowls and mugs
 - two primary resources: pottery clay and labor
- **How many bowls and mugs should be produced each day in order to maximize profit?**
 - Resource requirements and profit per item produced:

Product	Labor (hrs/ unit)	Clay (lbs/ unit)	Profit (\$/ unit)
Bowl	1	4	40
Mug	2	3	50

- **There are 40 hours of labor and 120 pounds of clay available each day.**

Decision Variables

What does management control?

Decision Variables

What does management control?

X_1 = # of bowls to produce each day

X_2 = # of mugs to produce each day

Objective Function

What is meant by best?

Objective Function

What is meant by best?

- **Best = Maximum Profit**
 - Profit per Bowl = \$40, Profit per Mug = \$50
 - # of bowls to produce = X_1 , # of mugs to produce = X_2

- **Profit Function:**

$$Z = \$40X_1 + \$50X_2$$

- **Objective Function:**

Maximize $Z = \$40X_1 + \$50X_2$

Resource Constraints

What constraints must be obeyed?

What resources are limited?

Resource Constraints

Labor

- **Available: ?**
- **Required: ?**
- **Labor constraint: ?**

Resource Constraints

Labor

- **Available: 40 hours per day**
- **Required: 1 hour per bowl produced, 2 hours per mug produced**
- **Labor constraint: $1X_1 + 2X_2 \leq 40$**

Resource Constraints

Pottery Clay

- **Available: ?**
- **Required: ?**
- **Pottery Clay constraint: ?**

Resource Constraints

Pottery Clay

- **Available: 120 pounds per day**
- **Required: 4 pounds per bowl produced, 3 pounds per mug produced**
- **Pottery Clay constraint: $4X_1 + 3X_2 \leq 120$**

Resource Constraints

Non-negativity

- No negative quantities can be produced
- $X_1, X_2 \geq 0$

Model Summary

X_1 = # of bowls to produce each day

X_2 = # of mugs to produce each day

Maximize $Z = \$40X_1 + \$50X_2$

subject to

$$\mathbf{1X_1 + 2X_2 \leq 40}$$

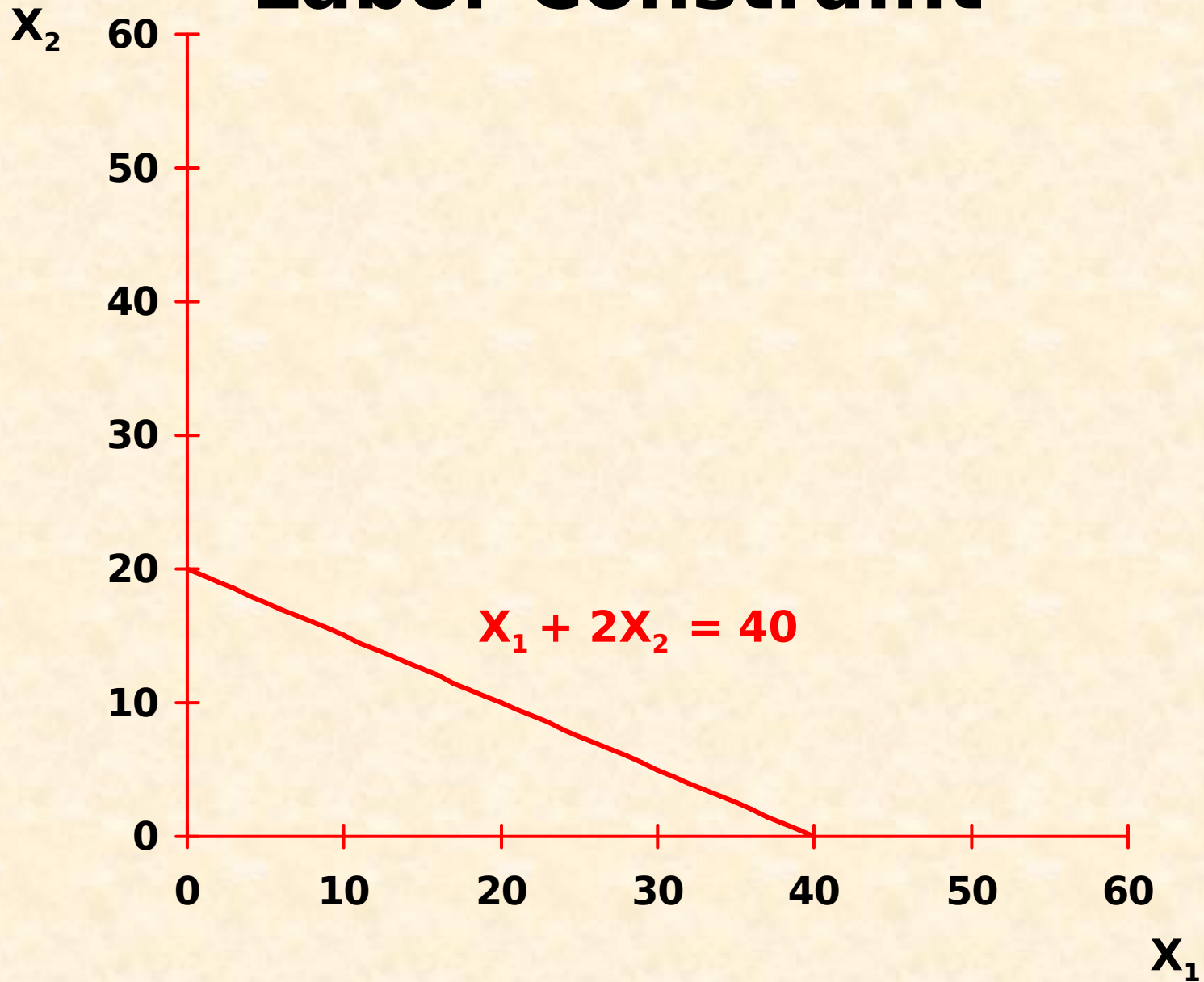
$$\mathbf{4X_1 + 3X_2 \leq 120}$$

$$\mathbf{X_1, X_2 \geq 0}$$

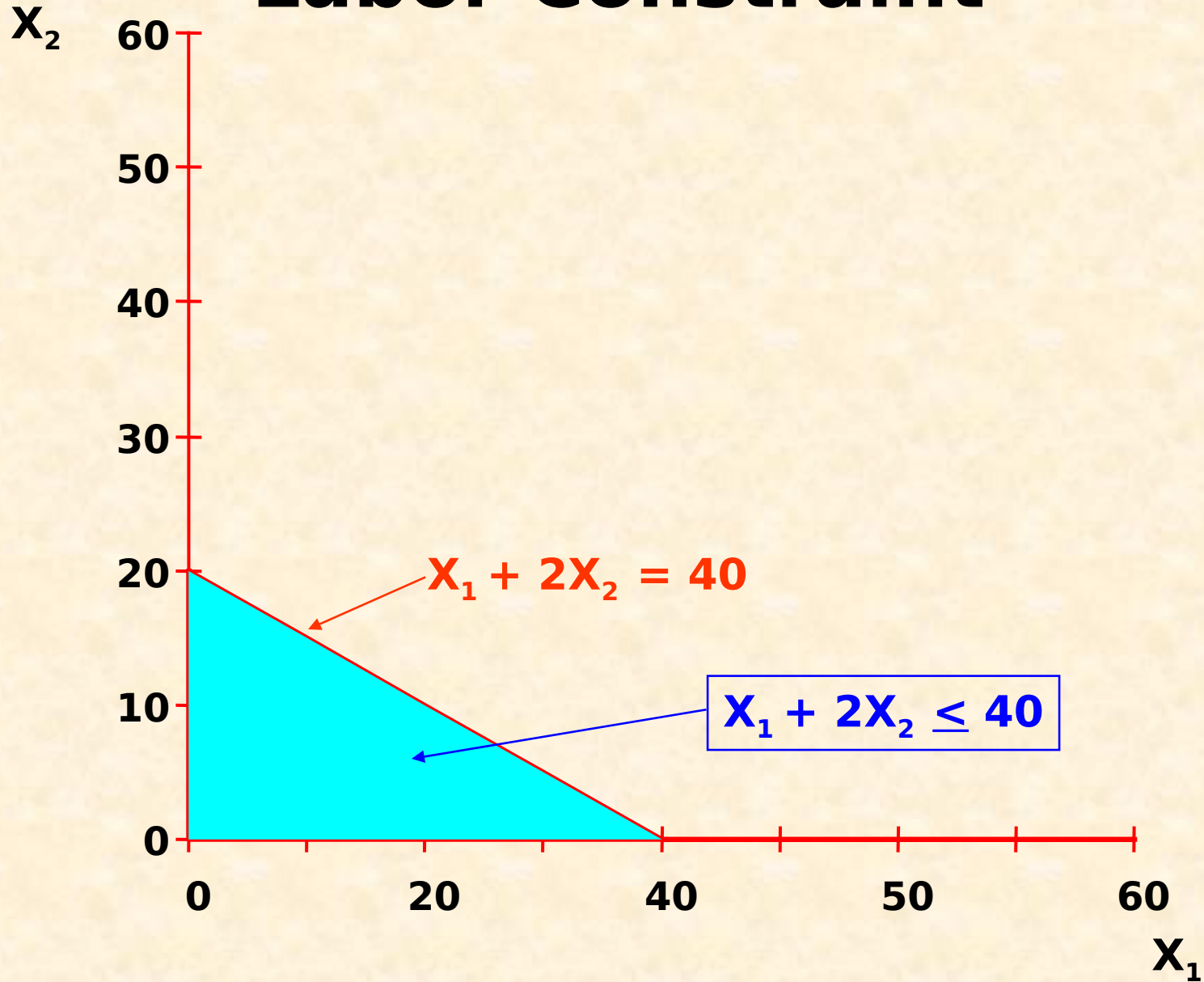
Graph Feasible Solutions

- **Labor Constraint:** $X_1 + 2X_2 \leq 40$
- **Clay Constraint:** $4X_1 + 3X_2 \leq 120$
- **Nonnegativity:** $X_1, X_2 \geq 0$

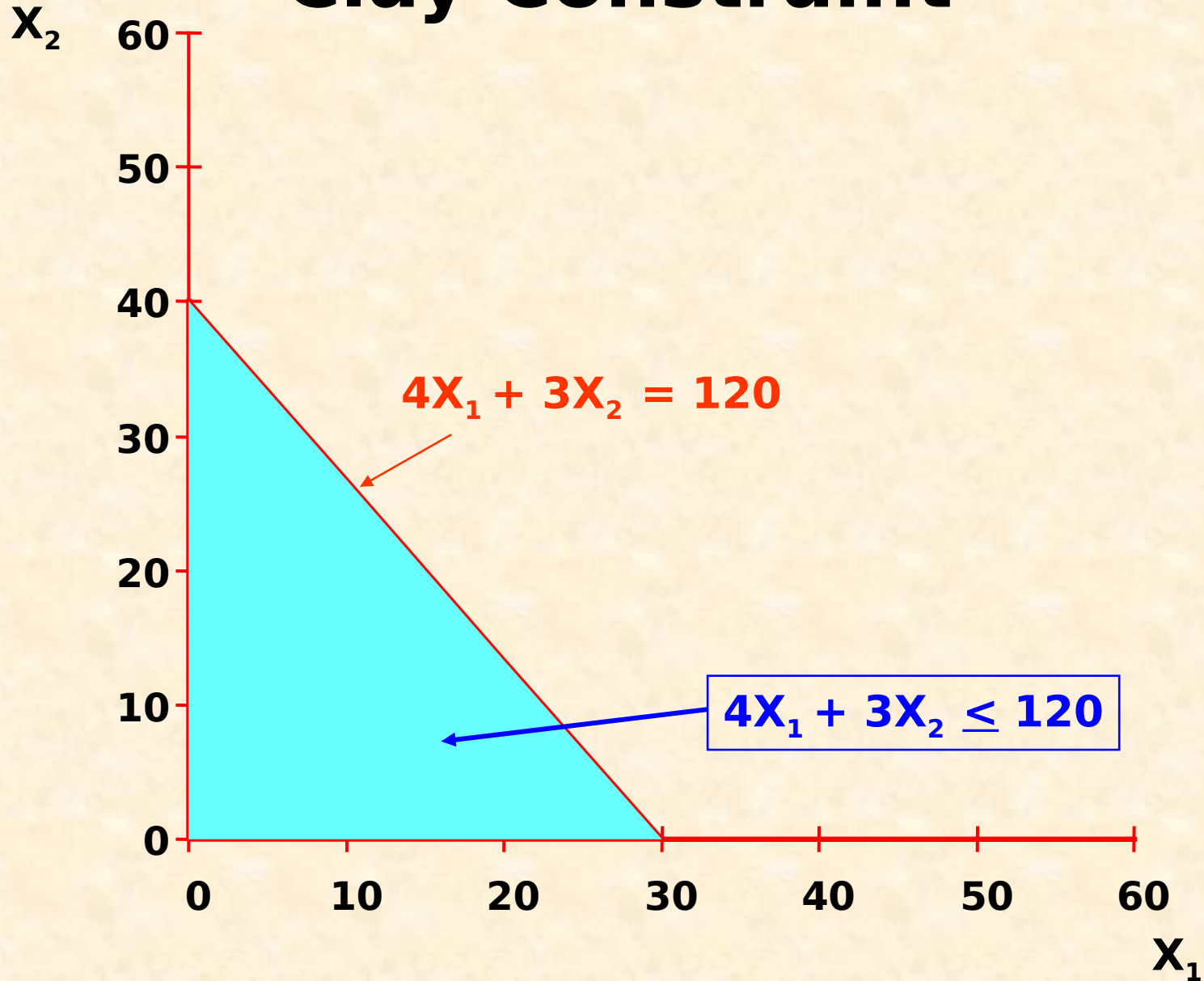
Labor Constraint



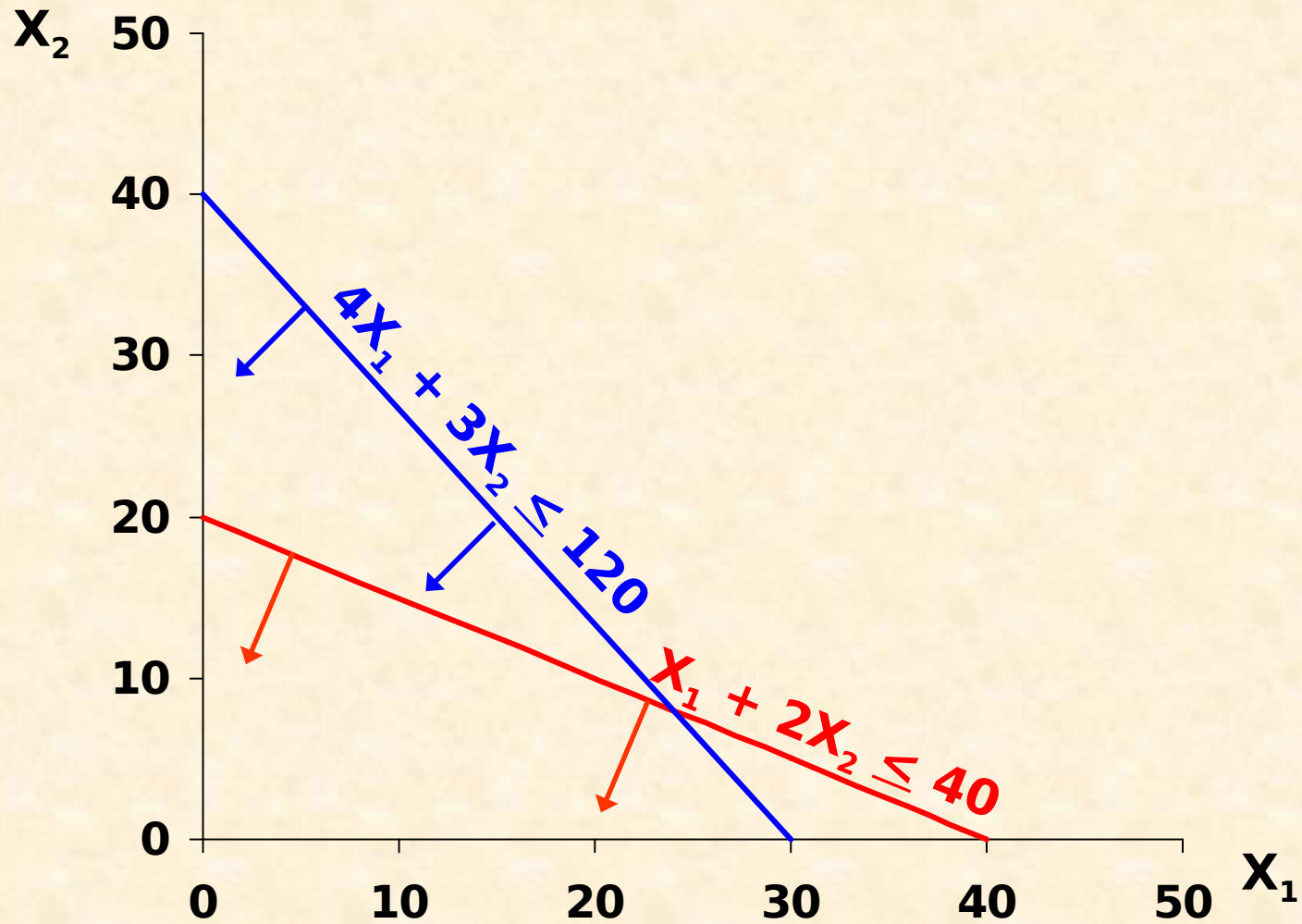
Labor Constraint



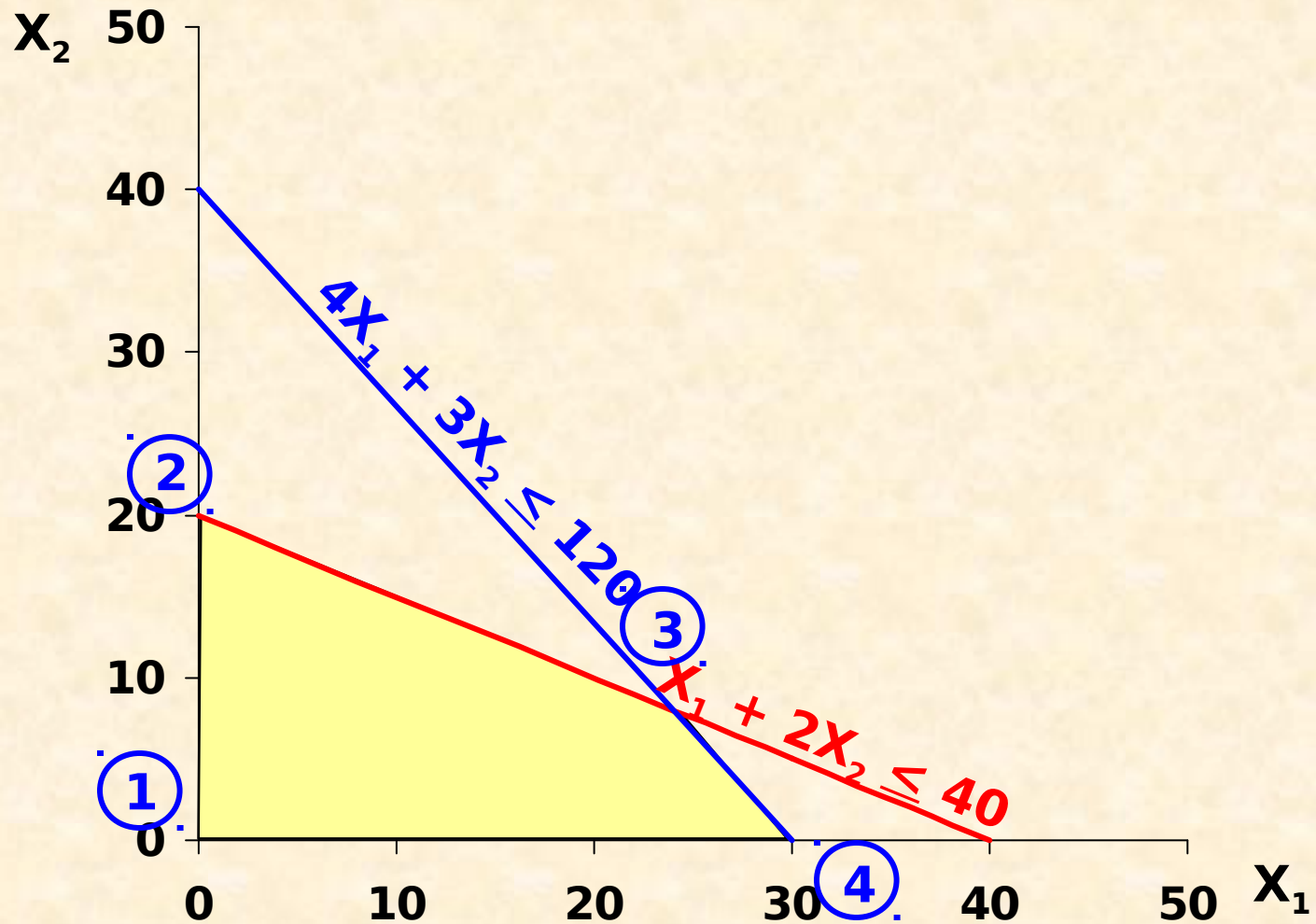
Clay Constraint



Feasible region



Feasible region



Draw Isoprofit Line

Solve for Optimum X_1 , X_2

$$Z = 40X_1 + 50X_2$$

$(40)(50) = 2000$; pick a multiple of 2000

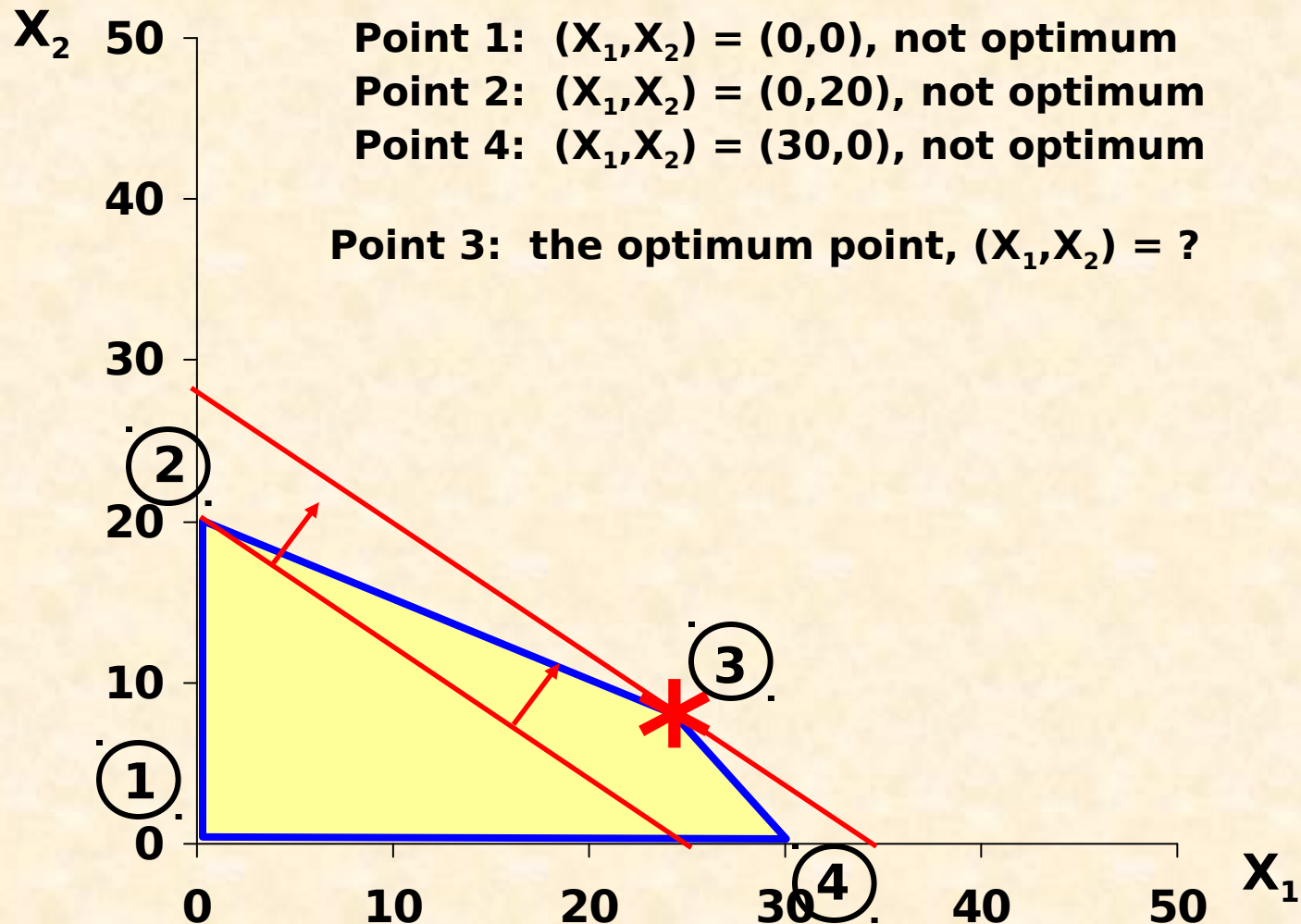
$$\text{Set } Z = (0.5)(2000) = 1000$$

$$\text{If } X_1 = 0, X_2 = 20$$

$$\text{If } X_2 = 0, X_1 = 25$$

Draw Isoprofit Lines

Solve for Optimum X_1, X_2



Mathematical Solution

$$X_1 + 2X_2 \leq 40$$

$$X_1 + 2X_2 = 40$$

Solve for X_1

$$X_1 = 40 - 2X_2$$

$$4X_1 + 3X_2 \leq 120$$

$$4X_1 + 3X_2 = 120$$

Solve for X_1

$$X_1 = (120 - 3X_2)/4$$

At intersection, values of X_1 are
equal:

$$40 - 2X_2 = (120 - 3X_2)/4$$

$$160 - 8X_2 = 120 - 3X_2$$

$$40 = 5X_2$$

$$X_2 = 8$$

$$X_1 = 40 - 2X_2$$

$$X_1 = 40 - 2(8)$$

$$X_1 = 24$$

$$Z = \$40(24) + \$50(8) = \$1360$$

The Holiday Meal Turkey Ranch

The Holiday Meal Turkey Ranch is considering purchasing 2 different brands of turkey feed which it will blend to provide a good, low-cost diet for its turkeys. Each feed contains, in varying proportions, some or all of 3 essential nutrients. Each pound of brand 1 contains 5 ounces of ingredient A, 4 ounces of ingredient B, and 1/2 ounce of ingredient C. Each pound of brand 2 contains 10 ounces of ingredient A, 3 ounces of ingredient B, and 0 ounces of ingredient C. Brand 1 feed costs 2 cents/lb while brand 2 feed costs 3 cents/lb.

Using LP, determine the lowest-cost diet that meets the following minimum monthly intake requirements for each nutritional ingredient.

Minimum Monthly Requirement	
Ingredient	(Per Turkey)
A	90
B	48
C	1.5

Decision Variables

What does management control?

Decision Variables

What does management control?

X_1 = pounds of brand 1 feed purchased

X_2 = pounds of brand 2 feed purchased

Objective Function

What is meant by best?

Objective Function

What is meant by best?

Best = minimum cost

- Cost per pound of brand 1 = 2 cents, Cost per pound of brand 2 = 3 cents
- # of pounds of brand 1 to purchase = X_1 , # of pounds of brand 2 to purchase = X_2

- **Cost Function:**

$$Z = \$.02X_1 + \$.03X_2$$

- **Objective Function:**

Minimize $Z = \$.02X_1 + \$.03X_2$

Resource Constraints

What constraints must be obeyed?

What resources are limited?

Resource Constraints

Ingredient A

- Minimum required: ?
- Amount supplied by each brand: ?
- Ingredient A constraint: ?

Resource Constraints

Ingredient A

- Minimum required: 90 ounces per turkey per month
- Amount supplied by each brand: 5 ounces per pound of Brand 1, 10 ounces per pound of Brand 2
- Ingredient A constraint: $5X_1 + 10X_2 \geq 90$

Resource Constraints

Ingredient B

- Minimum required: ?
- Amount supplied by each brand: ?
- Ingredient A constraint: ?

Resource Constraints

Ingredient B

- Minimum required: 48 ounces per turkey per month
- Amount supplied by each brand: 4 ounces per pound of Brand 1, 3 ounces per pound of Brand 2

- Ingredient B constraint: $4X_1 + 3X_2 \geq 48$

Resource Constraints

Ingredient C

- Minimum required: ?
- Amount supplied by each brand: ?
- Ingredient C constraint: ?

Resource Constraints

Ingredient C

- Minimum required: 1.5 ounces per turkey per month
- Amount supplied by each brand: 0.5 ounces per pound of Brand 1, 0 ounces per pound of Brand 2



- Ingredient B constraint: $0.5X_1 \geq 1.5$

Resource Constraints

Non-negativity

- No negative quantities can be produced
- $X_1, X_2 \geq 0$

Model Summary

X_1 = pounds of brand 1 feed purchased

X_2 = pounds of brand 2 feed purchased

$$\text{Minimize } Z = 2X_1 + 3X_2$$

subject to

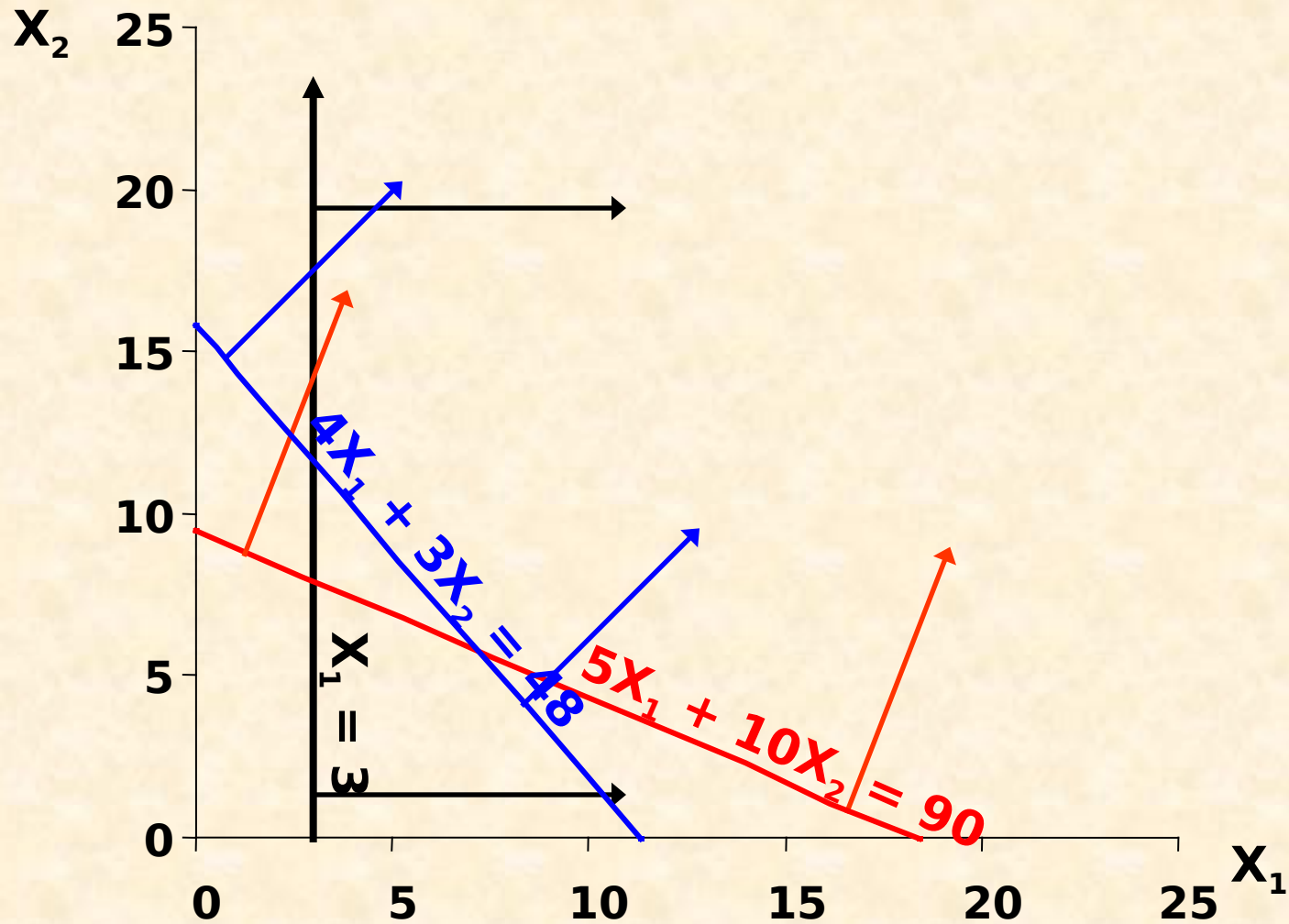
$$5X_1 + 10X_2 \geq 90$$

$$4X_1 + 3X_2 \geq 48$$

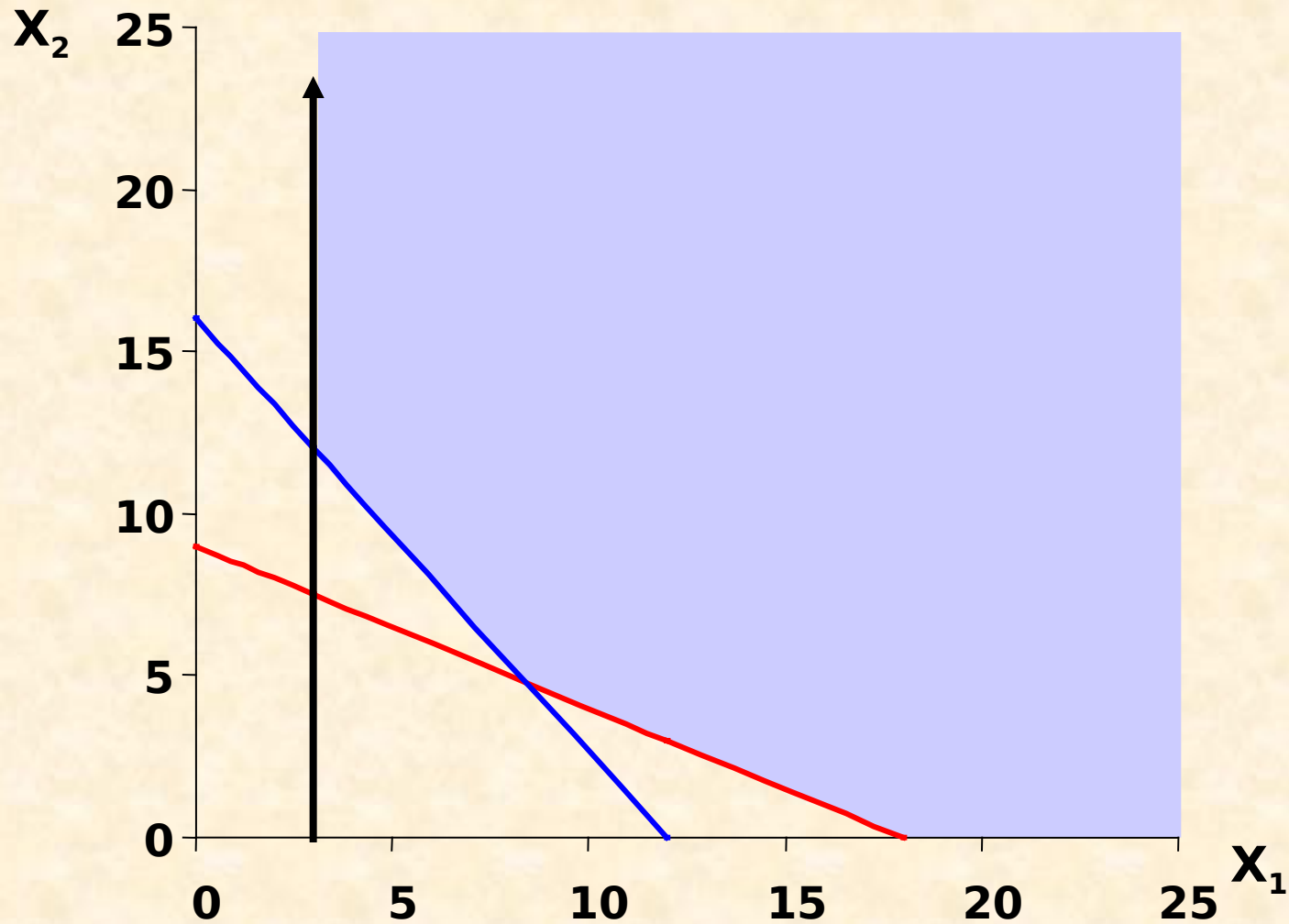
$$0.5X_1 \geq 1.5$$

$$X_1, X_2 \geq 0$$

Feasible Solutions



Feasible Region



Draw Isocost Lines

Solve for Optimum X_1 , X_2

$$Z = 2X_1 + 3X_2$$

(2)(3) = 6; pick a multiple of 6

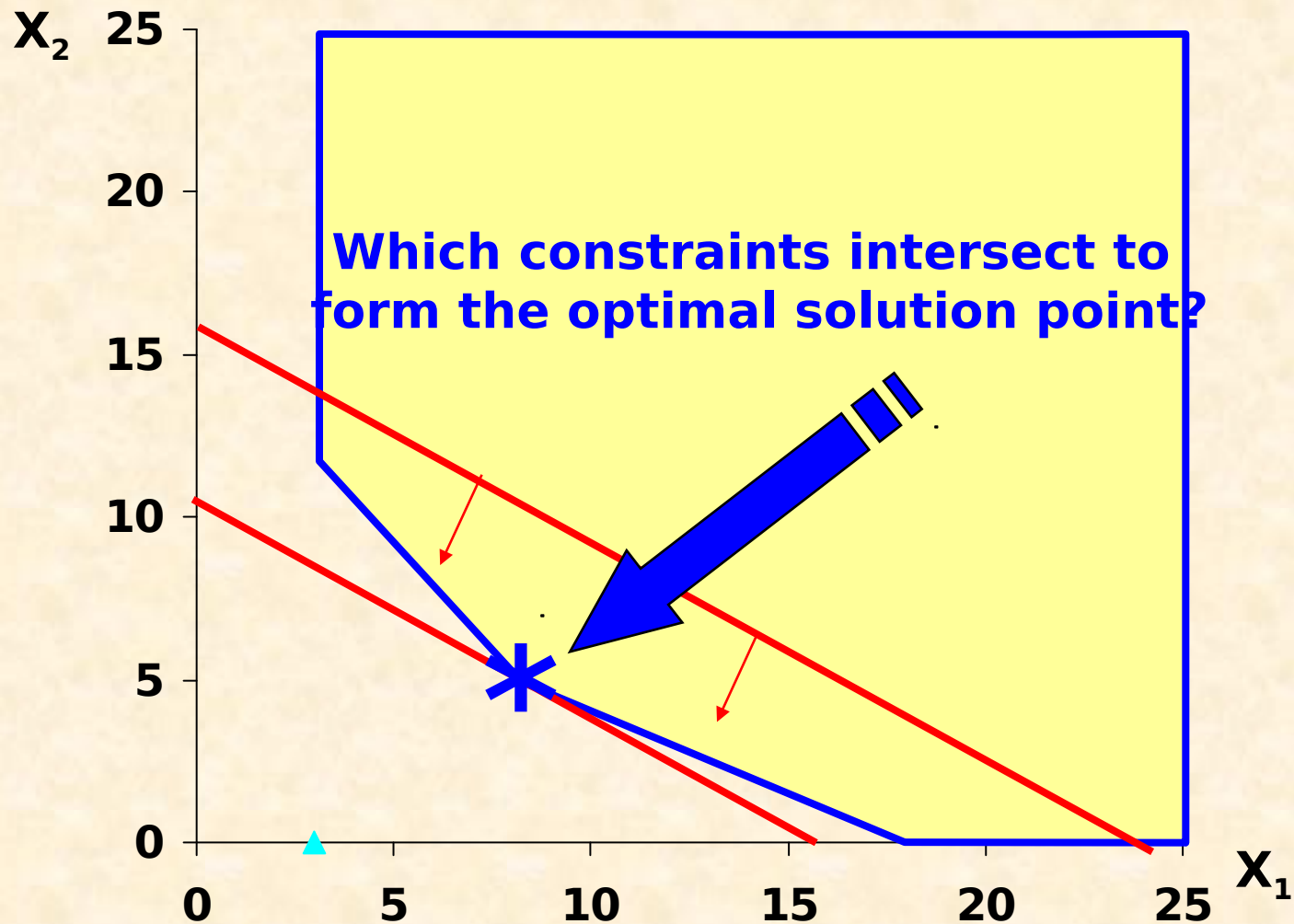
$$\text{Set } Z = (8)(6) = 48$$

$$\text{If } X_1 = 0, X_2 = 16$$

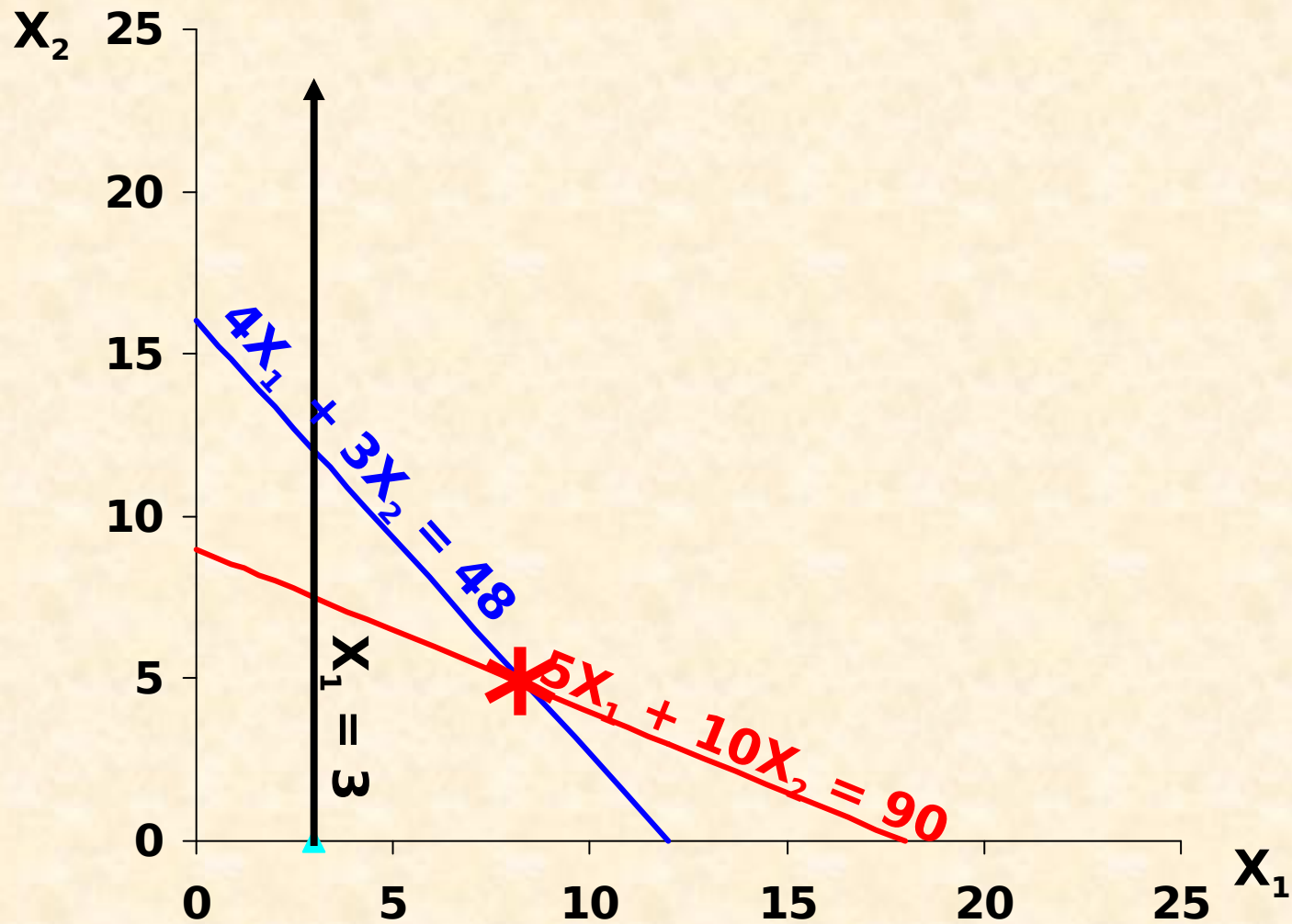
$$\text{If } X_2 = 0, X_1 = 24$$

Draw Isocost Lines

Solve for X_1 , X_2



Feasible Solutions



Mathematical Solution

$$5X_1 + 10X_2 \geq 90$$

$$5X_1 + 10X_2 = 90$$

Solve for X_1

$$X_1 = 18 - 2X_2$$

$$4X_1 + 3X_2 \geq 48$$

$$4X_1 + 3X_2 = 48$$

Solve for X_1

$$X_1 = (48 - 3X_2)/4$$

At intersection, values of X_1 are equal:

$$18 - 2X_2 = (48 - 3X_2)/4$$

$$72 - 8X_2 = 48 - 3X_2$$

$$24 = 5X_2$$

$$X_2 = 4.8$$

$$X_1 = 18 - 2X_2$$

$$X_1 = 18 - 2(4.8)$$

$$X_1 = 8.4$$

$$Z = 2(8.4) + 3(4.8) = 16.8 + 14.4 =$$

Irregular Problems

- **Infeasibility**
 - **A condition that arises when there is no solution to a linear programming problem that satisfies all constraints simultaneously**
- **Unbounded Problems**
 - **A linear program that does not have a finite solution**
- **Redundancy**
 - **Constraints are present that do not affect the feasible region**
- **Multiple Optimal Solutions**
 - **Occurs when a problem's isoprofit or isocost line exactly parallels a resource constraint line at the optimum solution point**

An Infeasible Problem

$$\text{Maximize } Z = 5X_1 + 3X_2$$

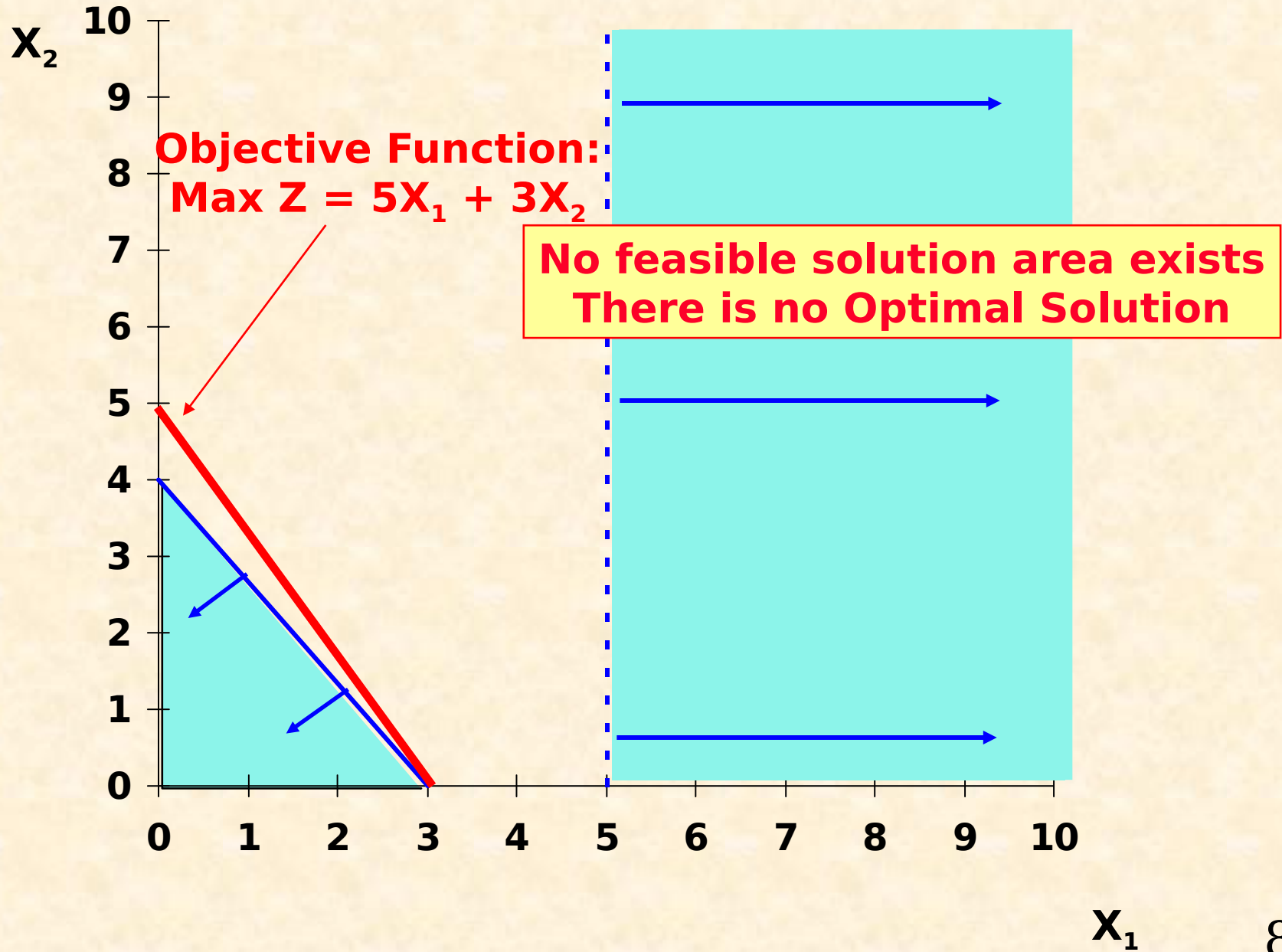
subject to

$$4X_1 + 3X_2 \leq 12$$

$$X_1 \geq 5$$

$$X_1, X_2 \geq 0$$

An Infeasible Problem



Infeasible Problems

- **Rarely occur**
- **Usually a result of improper formulation**

An Unbounded Problem

$$\text{Maximize } Z = 4X_1 + 4X_2$$

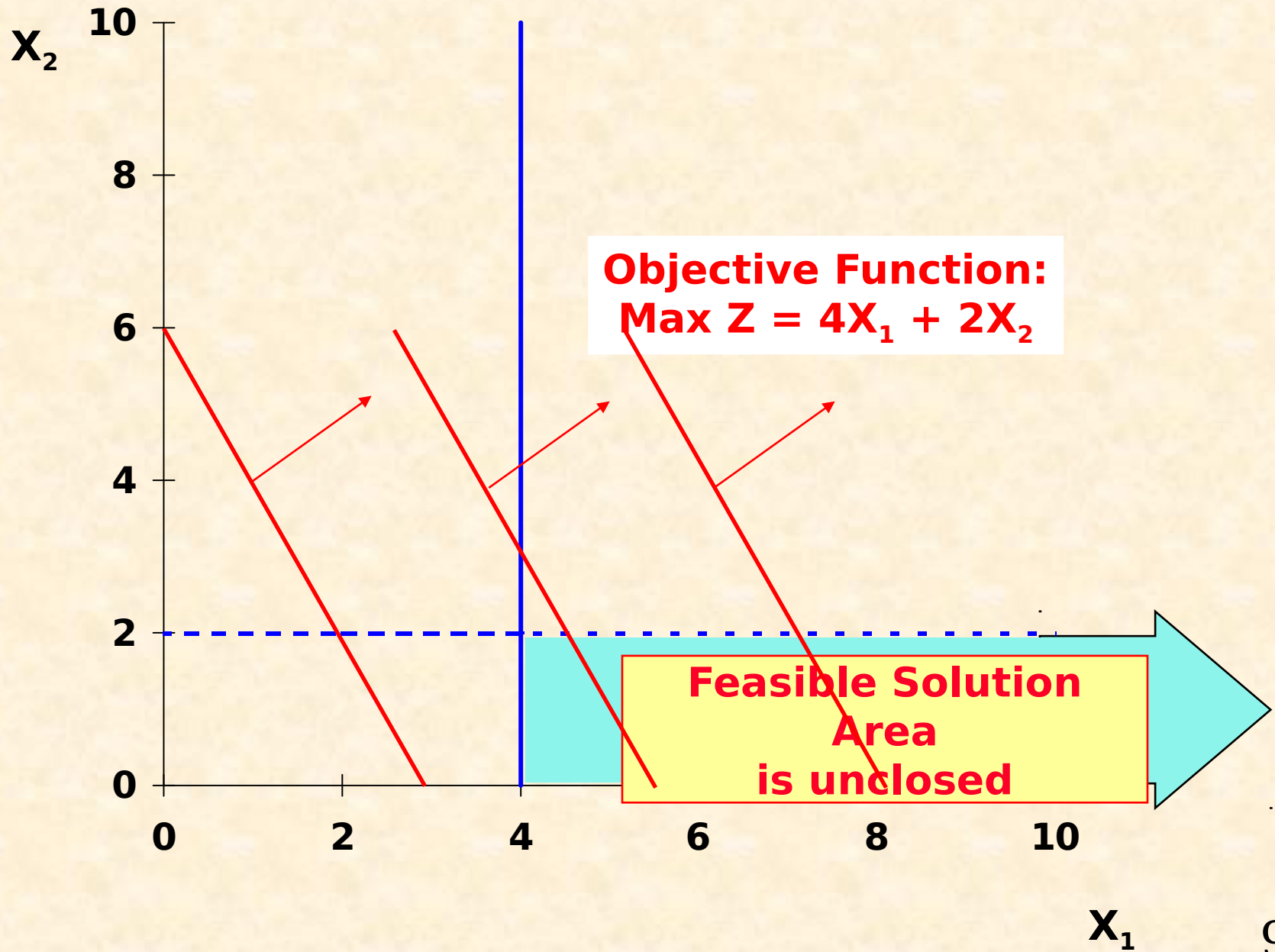
subject to

$$X_1 \geq 4$$

$$X_2 \leq 2$$

$$X_1, X_2 \geq 0$$

An Unbounded Problem



Unbounded Problems

- **The feasible solution area is not closed**
- **Objective function can be increased indefinitely without reaching a maximum value**
- **An “impossible” situation in a world of limited resources**
 - **A constraint has likely been omitted**

Redundancy

$$\text{Maximize } Z = 1X_1 + 2X_2$$

subject to

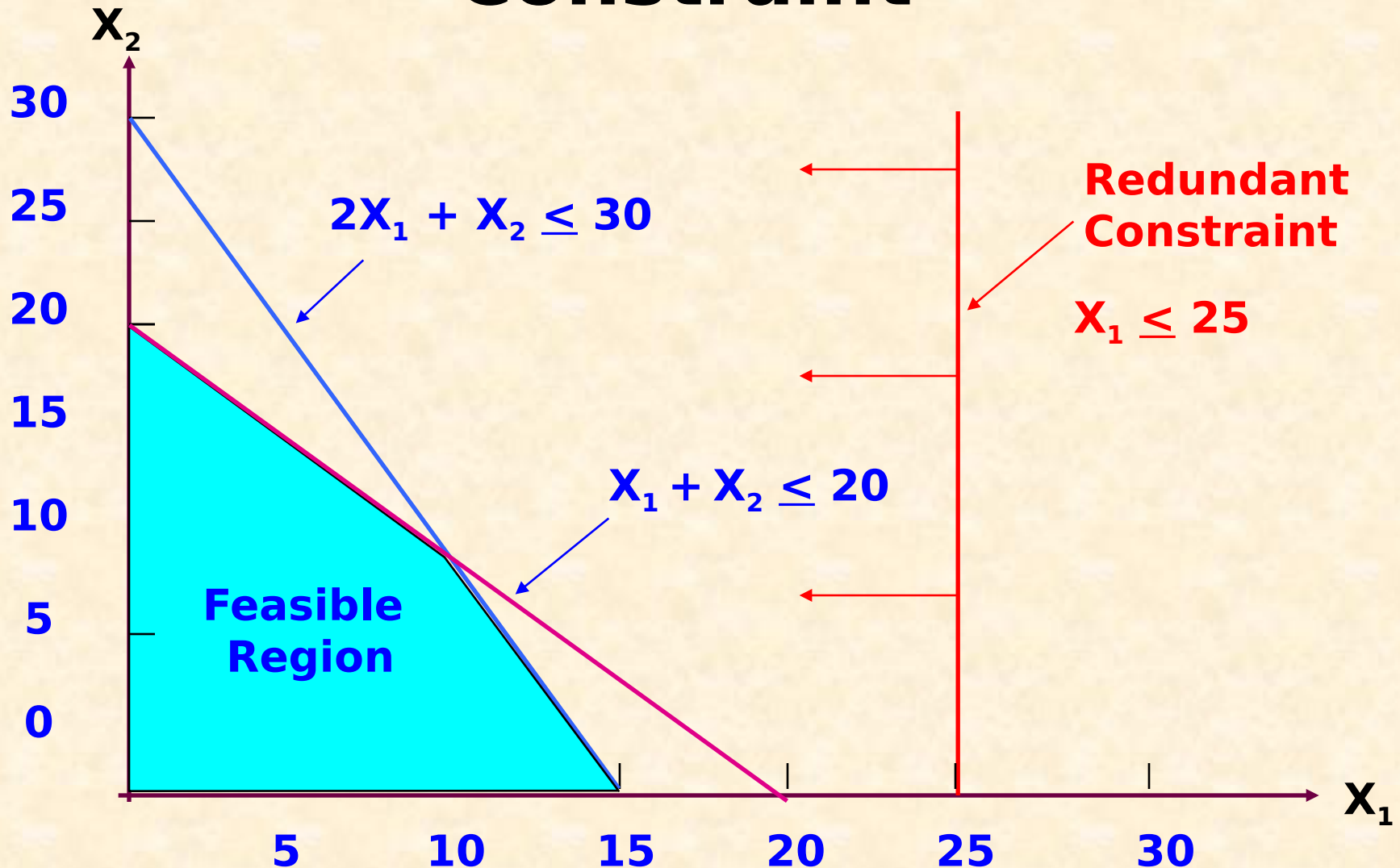
$$X_1 + X_2 \leq 20$$

$$2X_1 + X_2 \leq 30$$

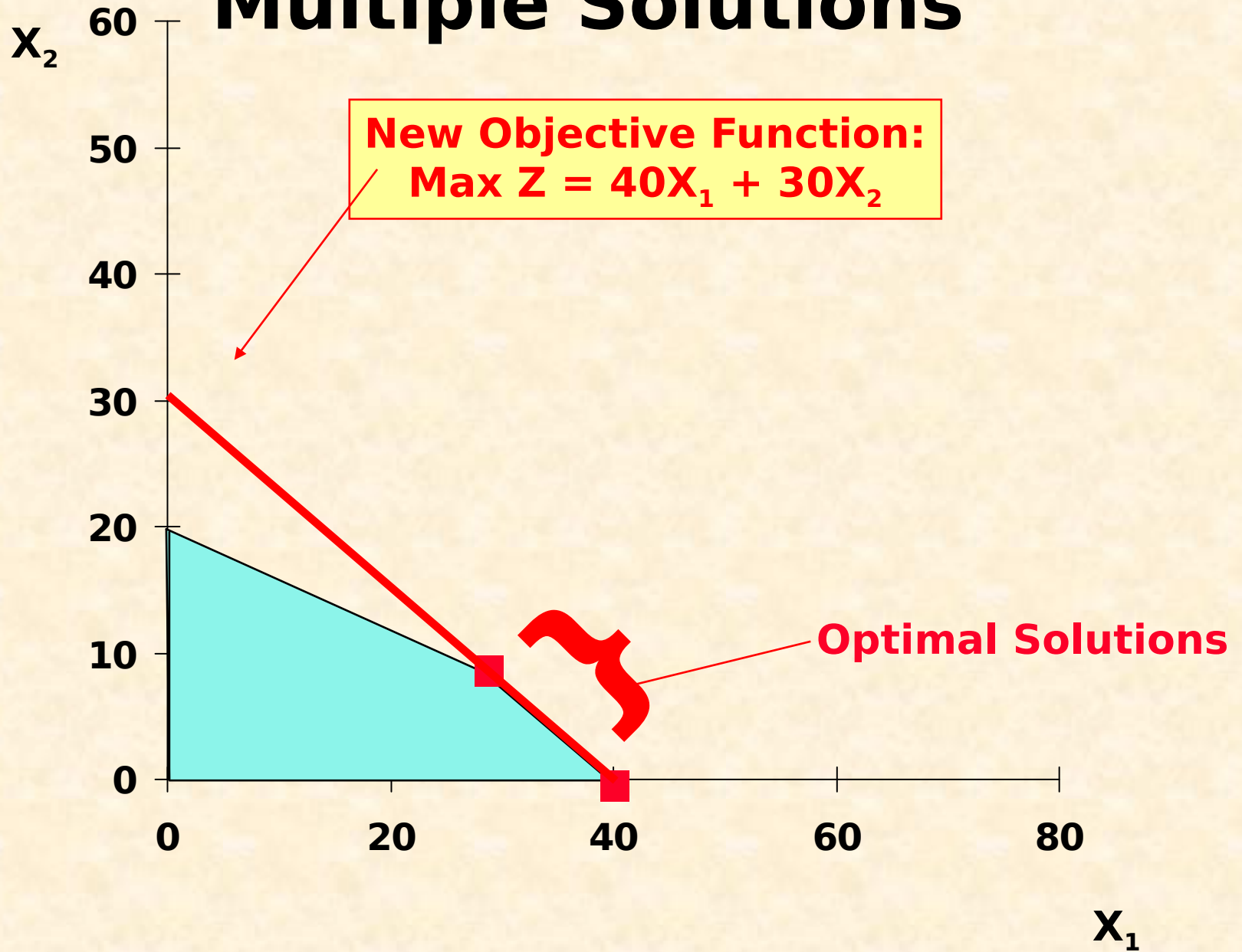
$$X_1 \leq 25$$

$$X_1, X_2 \geq 0$$

A Problem with a Redundant Constraint



Multiple Solutions



Multiple Solutions

- **Objective function parallels a constraint line at the optimal solution**
- **Any point along the line segment is optimal**
- **Endpoints are called alternate optimal solutions**

Sensitivity Analysis

- **Solution process thus far has been deterministic**
 - **Have assumed models parameters known with certainty**
 - » **prices are fixed, resources are known, etc.**
- **Unlikely due to real world dynamics**
 - **It is extremely important to know how sensitive the optimal solution is to changes in the model's assumptions or data**
- **With the advent of desktop computers and linear programming software packages, sensitivity analysis often is done by simply changing a model's parameters and rerunning the model to assess the impact of the changes**

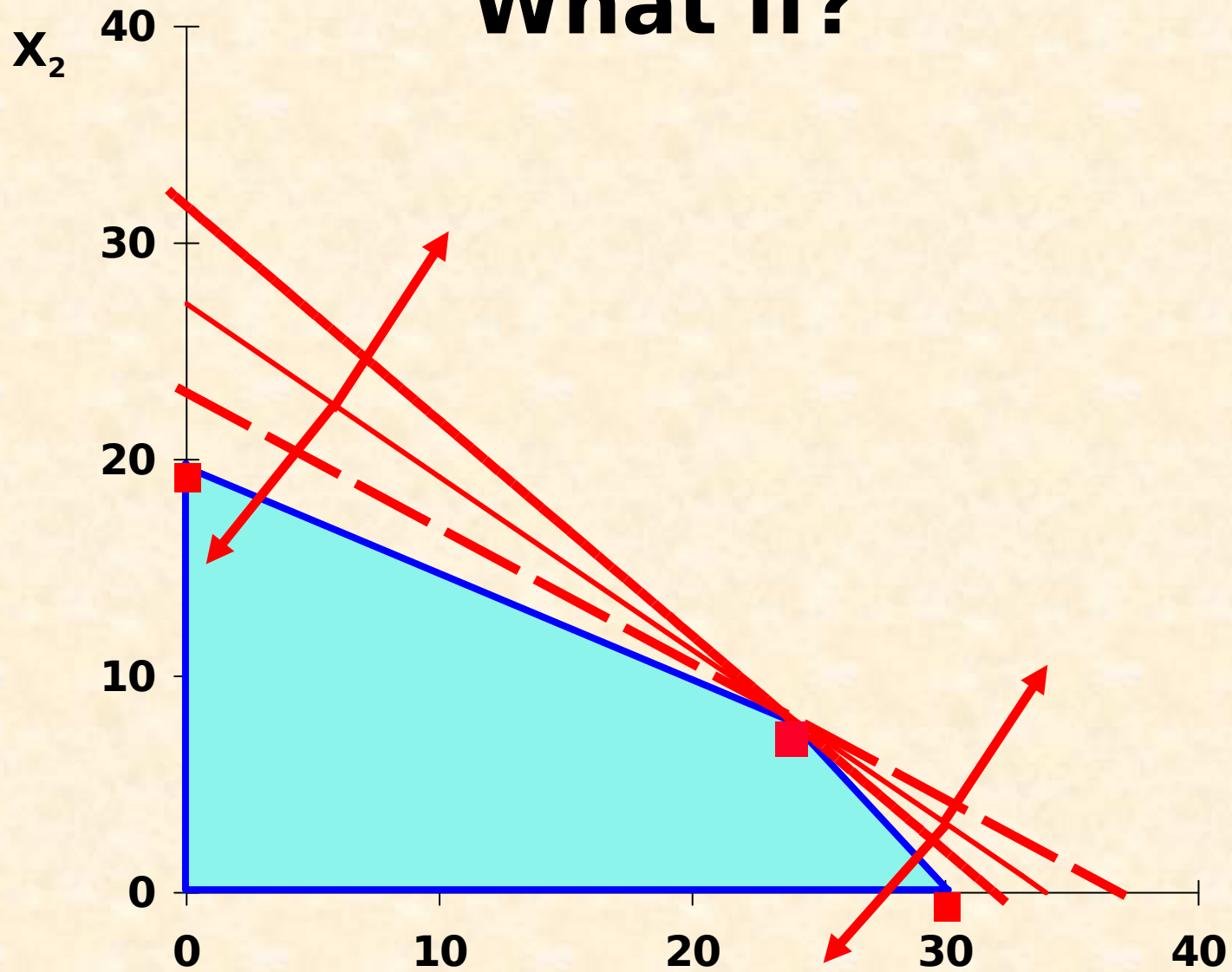
Sensitivity Analysis

- **Sensitivity analysis is generally performed to examine a model's sensitivity to changes in three important areas**
 - **Objective function coefficients**
 - » **measure contribution rates for decision variables**
 - **Constraint function coefficients**
 - » **measures of technology**
 - **Constraint function right hand side values**
 - » **measures of resource availability**

Objective Function Coefficients

- **A product's contribution to profit or cost fluctuates periodically, as do most of a firm's expenses**
- **Graphical implication is that, while the feasible solution area remains exactly the same, the slope of the isoprofit or isocost line changes**
 - **Optimal solution point may occur at a different extreme point**
 - » **a different combination of decision variables may occur**
 - » **maximum profit/minimum cost may change**

What if?



Resource Constraint Coefficients

- **Resource constraint coefficients often reflect changes in the state of technology**
 - **Improvements in technology may improve efficiency of the production process so that fewer resources are required to generate the same level of output**
- **Graphical implication is that, while the slope of the isoprofit or isocost line does not change, the feasible solution area may change significantly**
 - **A new or different corner point may become optimal**
 - **Maximum profit/minimum cost may change**

Right Hand Side Values

- **Right hand side values of constraints are indicative of the resources available to a firm**
- **Graphical implication is a change in the feasible solution area**
 - **Maximum profit/minimum cost may change**

Computer Solutions

- **Graphing limited to two decision variables**
 - **Not a practical limitation**
- **Computers offered a powerful tool for number crunching**
 - **Proper formulation a prerequisite**

Proper Formulation = Standard Form

- **Tremendous diversity of LP problems posed a problem for software developers**
 - **Minimize, maximize**
 - **All \geq constraints, all \leq constraints, combinations**
- **Standard Form was developed to reduce the possible variations of LP problems to one common model**

Standard Form

- **Convert inequalities to equations**
 - **Ready to solve simultaneous equations for optimal solution**
 - **Converting to constraints that look the same simplified formulation and solution by computer**

Transformation to Standard Form

\leq Constraints

- Add a Slack Variable (S_i)
 - Free to assume any value necessary to make the left-hand side (LHS) of the equation equal to the right-hand side (RHS)
 - Represent unused resources, or *slack* in a resource constraint

$$\begin{array}{ll} X_1 + 2X_2 \leq 40 \text{ hrs of labor} & \rightarrow X_1 + 2X_2 + S_1 = 40 \\ 4X_1 + 3X_2 \leq 120 \text{ lbs of clay} & 4X_1 + 3X_2 + S_2 = 120 \end{array}$$

$$\text{For } (X_1, X_2) = (5, 10)$$

$$S_1 = 40 - 5 - 2(10)$$

$$S_1 = 15 \text{ unused hrs of labor}$$

$$S_2 = 120 - 4(5) - 3(10)$$

$$S_2 = 70 \text{ unused lbs of clay}$$

Slack Variables

- **Unused resources contribute nothing to profit**
 - **No effect on the objective function**
- **Nonnegative**
 - **Negative resources not possible**

Transformation to Standard Form

\geq Constraints

- Subtract a Surplus Variable (S_i)
 - Free to assume any value necessary to make the left-hand side (LHS) of the equation equal to the right-hand side(RHS)
 - Reflect the excess above a minimum requirement level, or *surplus* in a resource constraint

$$\begin{array}{ll} 5X_1 + 10X_2 \geq 90 \text{ oz of Ingred A} & \rightarrow 5X_1 + 10X_2 - S_1 = 90 \\ 4X_1 + 3X_2 \geq 48 \text{ oz of Ingred B} & 4X_1 + 3X_2 - S_2 = 48 \end{array}$$

For $(X_1, X_2) = (0, 20)$

$$S_1 = 5(0) + 10(20) - 90$$

$S_1 = 110$ excess oz of
Ingred A

$$S_2 = 4(0) + 3(20) - 48$$

$S_2 = 12$ excess oz of Ingred
B

Surplus Variables

- **Excess resources contribute nothing to cost**
 - **A “fringe benefit” with no effect on objective function**
- **Nonnegative**
 - **Negative resources not possible**

Computer Solution

- **Based on the Simplex Method**
 - Requires standard form
- **Computer software incorporates the mathematical steps of the simplex method**
 - Software evolution = **constraints automatically converted to equalities**
- **Slack and surplus variables are important elements of solver output**
 - Offer management significant insight
- **Solution Analysis**

Proper Formulation Essential

- **Read the story**
- **Identify the Problem**
 - **Decision variables**
 - **Objective function**
 - **Model constraints**
- **Formulate the model**
- **Convert to spreadsheet format compatible with computer solver**
- **Solve problem then analyze solution**

Spreadsheet Models

Principle Elements

- **Numbers**
 - **Decision Variables**
 - **Parameters**
- **Formulas**
 - **Functional relationships between variables and parameters**

Numbers

- **Decision Variables**
 - **Numbers under managerial control**
 - **Adjustable/changeable cells**
- **Parameters**
 - **Not under managerial control**
 - » **objective function coefficients**
 - **profit per unit**
 - » **right hand side values**
 - **available inventory of resources**
 - » **resource constraint coefficients**
 - **resource requirements per unit**

Spreadsheet Formulas

- **KEEP PARAMETER DATA AND FORMULAS SEPARATE**
 - Eliminates need to modify formulas when parameters change
- **SUMPRODUCT**
 - Excel function that yields the inner product of two vectors

SUMPRODUCT

- **Profit Function:** $Z = 5X_1 + 6X_2 + 8X_3$
- **Decision Variable Quantities:** $X_1 = 2, X_2 = 6, X_3 = 4$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Total Profit} &= \sum_{i=1}^3 (\text{Profit}_i) (\text{Quantity}_i) \\ &= (5)(2) + (6)(6) + (8)(4) = 78\end{aligned}$$

	A	B	C	D
1	Vector Notation			
2		X₁	X₂	X₃
3	Objective Function Coefficients	5	6	8
4	Decision Variable Quantities	2	6	4
5				
6	=SUMPRODUCT(B3:D3,B4:D4)			

LP Model Formulation for Microsoft Excel

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	Value							
2	Objective Function							
3				▲	▲	▲	▲	
4				objective function coefficients corresponding to each decision variable				
5	Decision Variables			X₁	X₂	X₃	etc.	▶
6				*	*	*	*	*
7				constraint coefficients corresponding to each decision variable				
8				▼	▼	▼	▼	
9	Model Constraints	Limit	Used					
10	resource 1							
11	resource 2							
12	resource 3							
13	etc.							
14								
15				◀	requires a formula entry			
16								
17				◀	requires a parameter entry			
18								
19				◀	adjustable cells (computer generated)			
20								

Proper Constraint Form

- Variables on LHS, Numeric Coefficients
- Numerical Values on RHS
 - No “negative resources”
- Equalities

Proper form for the following:

- Production of product 3 must be as much or more than the production of products 1 and 2

$$X_3 \geq X_1 + X_2$$

- Production of product 1 must be no more than twice the production of products 2 and 3

$$\frac{X_1}{X_2 + X_3} \leq 2$$

Proper Constraint Form

$$X_3 \geq X_1 + X_2$$

- Variables on LHS, Numerical Values on RHS

$$X_3 - X_1 - X_2 \geq 0$$

- Equality

$$X_3 - X_1 - X_2 - S_1 = 0$$

What if constraint was of form $X_3 - X_1 - X_2 \geq -4$?

$$X_3 - X_1 - X_2 - S_1 = -4$$

RHS must be ≥ 0 ; convert by multiplying both sides by -1

$$-1(X_3 - X_1 - X_2 - S_1) = -1(-4)$$

$$X_1 + X_2 + S_1 - X_3 = 4$$

Proper Constraint Form

$$\frac{X_1}{X_2 + X_3} \leq 2$$

- **Variables on LHS, Numerical Values on RHS**

$$\frac{X_1}{X_2 + X_3} \leq 2$$

- **Relationship of variables/lack of numeric coefficients still a problem**

$$X_1 \leq 2(X_2 + X_3)$$

$$X_1 - 2X_2 - 2X_3 \leq 0$$

- **Equality**

$$X_1 - 2X_2 - 2X_3 + S_2 = 0$$